Autumn/Winter
TRAVEL CALENDAR

American West

The land and its people

September/October 1986 $3

Wanted again: fugitive Claude Dallas

Arizona's navy fought a war with California

Artist J. J. Audubon painted mammals of the West

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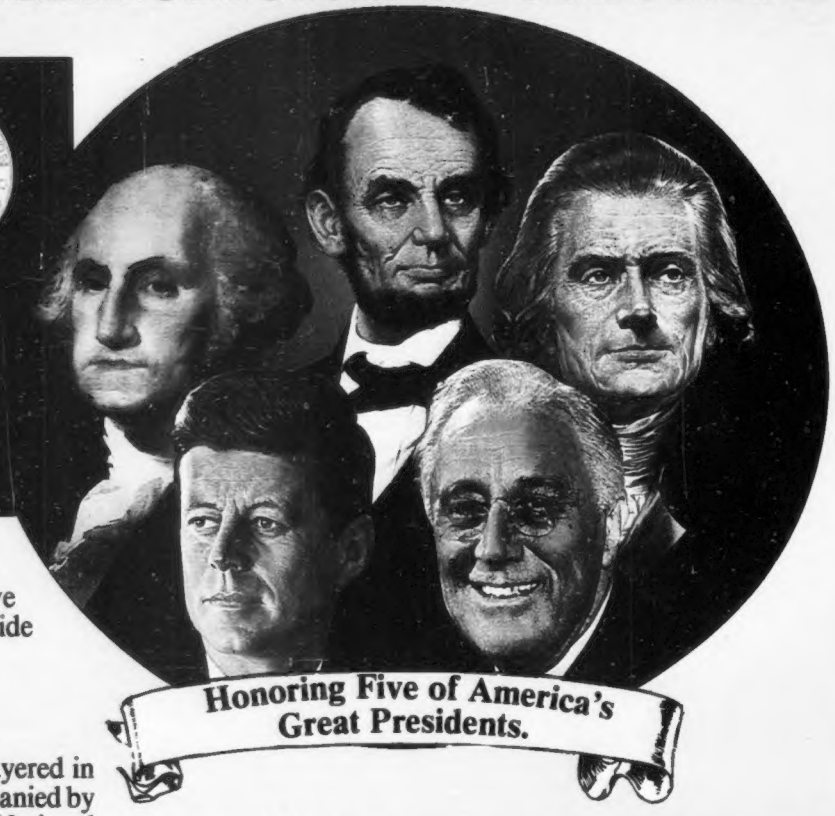
The Authentic Great American Presidents "Double Eagle" Commemorative Collection



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Minted in fewer numbers than the 1886 "O" Morgan or Liberty Head Silver Dollar, the Great American Presidents Commemoratives are *uncirculated* and of *mint-state* quality. Not more than 1,000,000 will be minted in this specific series. Thereafter, the dies will be destroyed, thus assuring permanent rarity.

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Commissioned and struck by the Mint as unique Commemorative medallions, they are not intended, designated or circulated as currency. To protect against mishandling, we recommend storage of Commemoratives in their protective sleeves.

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There is only One Condition to this offer

We cannot guarantee to honor requests at this special price after November 30, 1986. Your uncashed check will be returned if postmarked later than midnight of that date.

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Should you ever wish to sell or redeem your Great American Presidents Collection, the National Historic Mint pledges to repurchase it from you upon demand, any time within the next fifty (50) years, for the full cash price you paid.

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Many collectors desire a low Certificate of Authenticity serial number. Therefore please order your Commemorative Collection promptly. There is a limit of two (2) Collections per address at this price, but requests mailed early enough (before November 25) are permitted to order up to 5.

Since this offering is limited, please respond *promptly* and mail at once to the address below.

Send $25 for each Commemorative Collection together with your name and address. Add only $3 shipping and handling no matter how many you order. (New York residents add sales tax.) Allow up to 6-8 weeks for shipment. Mail to: **National Historic Mint, Great American Presidents Collection, Dept. 565-100, Box 256, Jericho, New York 11753.** **(E43660)**

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2 FREE BONUS GIFTS

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PROUD TRIBUTE TO THE "OLD WARHORSE."

Buckle Honors Retirement of the .45—Authorized by NRA-Established Defense Fund.

Shown Actual Size;
Fits Standard 1" to 1¼" Belts

Solid Sterling Silver; 24-Karat Gold Plated Pistol and Border—Limited Edition of 950

24-Karat Gold Plated Bronze—Limited Edition of 2,000

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Own an original work of gun engraver's art by the man whose rifle set a new world's record, Lynton McKenzie, engraver of the $201,000 Safari Club International Rifle.

Since 1911, Americans have defended our freedoms with the M1911A1 .45 Automatic Pistol. It has served longer and fought more battles than any other firearm in American military history.

Now, to honor the retirement of the .45 from military service, The American Historical Foundation, in conjunction with the NRA-established Firearms Civil Rights Legal Defense Fund, is proud to announce the .45 Automatic Commemorative Buckle.

Important And Useful Collectible

This is an important collectible that can be worn daily, as it makes a proud statement about the owner. It captures the spirit and tradition of the "Old Warhorse"—and the patriotism and military valor associated with it.

The historical importance of this milestone dictates that this buckle be the finest of its type. So, we went to a firearms engraver—not a buckle maker. And the man we commissioned is, in our opinion, the best gun engraver in America. Some call him the best in the world. He has engraved guns of all types for presidents and kings, not to mention the Safari Club International Rifle which sold for $201,000, a new world's record.

A Lynton McKenzie Original

We wanted this buckle to be a genuine, original "McKenzie." It is. Your buckle is actually struck directly from the steel master hub, hand engraved by Lynton McKenzie. The work is so precise that even under magnification each buckle actually looks hand engraved. The engraving style is classic English. All details of the M1911A1 are clearly visible. The whole design is contained within a border of bound oak leaves, signifying order, security and honor.

This buckle is "gentleman" size and fits standard 1" to 1 1/4" belts, so you can wear it with a suit or sport clothes.

Individual buckles are crafted in three different limited editions, as shown above.

Authorized By NRA-Established Defense Fund

It is appropriate that this important buckle is authorized by the Firearms Civil Rights Legal Defense Fund, established by the National Rifle Association. They fight the legal maneuverings of those who would take away our constitutional right to keep and bear arms.

This NRA-established Fund has wholeheartedly officially endorsed this buckle—the first time it has ever lent its support to a commemorative.

The Fund receives a portion of each reservation fee, and its name and other commemorative inscriptions appear on the back of each buckle. This will add to your pride when you wear it and enhance the buckle's value as a collectible.

Engraved Serial Number

Each buckle is engraved on the reverse with its own limited edition serial number. The buckles are available individually or in matched sets of three—each with identical numbers (a good idea for collectors). These original buckles could become important collectibles in the future.

The Foundation issues a Certificate of Authenticity with each buckle, attesting to the edition limit, the assay of the precious metal, the origin of the master engraving by Lynton McKenzie, and the official endorsement of the NRA-established Defense Fund.

Belt By Tex Shoemaker

A top-quality belt by famous holster maker Tex Shoemaker is also available. Each is made of thick, saddle leather, fully leather lined, stitched and embossed with a basketweave pattern. Width is 1 1/4"; available in tan or black. Please specify length and color.

How To Reserve

This is available exclusively from The American Historical Foundation. To place your reservation call (24-hour toll-free, 1-800-368-8080), use the reservation form below or personally visit. With your buckle you will also receive Membership in the Foundation. Satisfaction is guaranteed, or return within one month for a full refund.

This is a rare opportunity to acquire a Lynton McKenzie original, show a piece of history, tell the world about your interests, contribute to a good cause, add to your collection, and own a buckle you can wear with pride—all at the same time.

RESERVATION

Satisfaction guaranteed or Return in 30 days for Full Refund.

To: The American Historical Foundation
1142 West Grace Street, Dept. B112
Richmond, Virginia 23220
Telephone: (804) 353-1812
24-hour toll-free reservations: (800) 368-8080.

Please send the following .45 Commemorative Buckle(s) engraved with the Limited Edition Serial Number on the reverse.

___ Jewelers' Bronze, at $19.

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___ Solid Sterling Silver, 24-Karat Gold Plated Pistol and Border, at $195.

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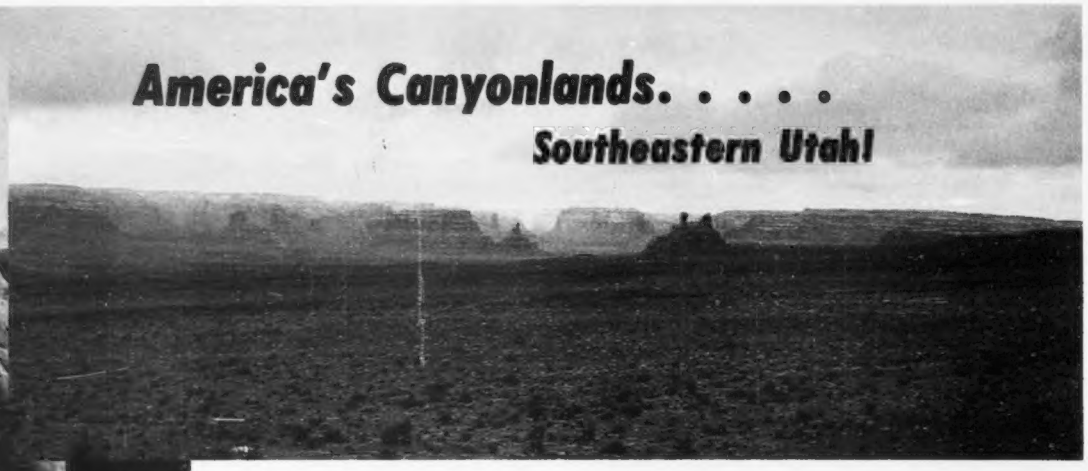

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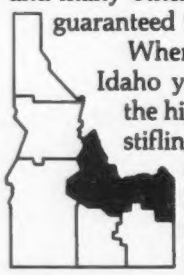

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IDAHO The Great Getaway

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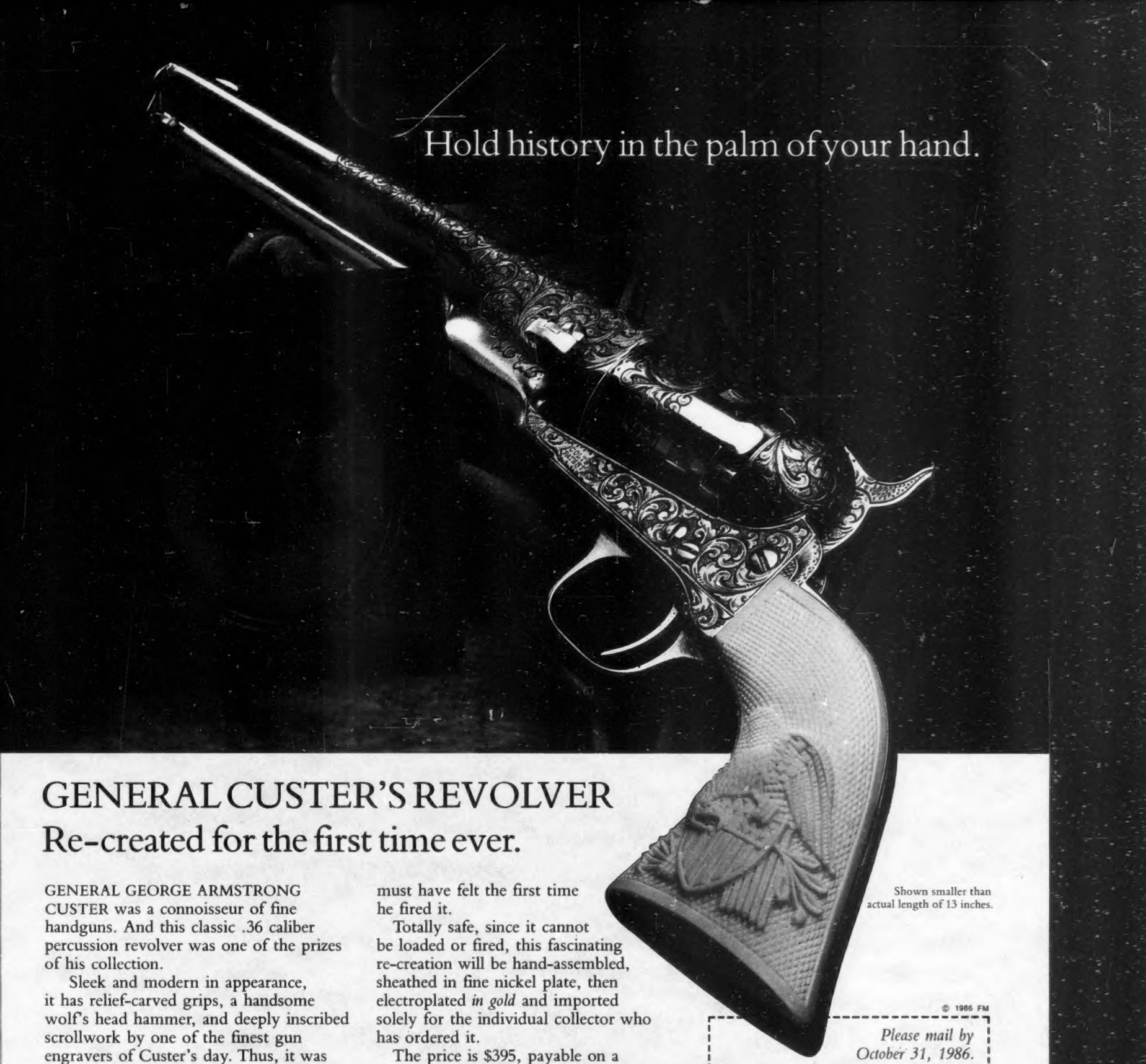

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GENERAL GEORGE ARMSTRONG CUSTER was a connoisseur of fine handguns. And this classic .36 caliber percussion revolver was one of the prizes of his collection.

Sleek and modern in appearance, it has relief-carved grips, a handsome wolf's head hammer, and deeply inscribed scrollwork by one of the finest gun engravers of Custer's day. Thus, it was the ideal gun for the legendary general whose love for possessions of beauty and elegance was well-known.

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Totally safe, since it cannot be loaded or fired, this fascinating re-creation will be hand-assembled, sheathed in fine nickel plate, then electroplated *in gold* and imported solely for the individual collector who has ordered it.

The price is $395, payable on a convenient monthly basis. A display rack will be provided at no extra charge.

To acquire this superb replica, sign and return the coupon by October 31, 1986.

Shown smaller than actual length of 13 inches.

This re-creation was created directly from the original Custer Colt Revolver under authority of the gun's owner. It has not been authorized or endorsed by the Colt Firearms Division of Colt Industries Operating Corporation, nor will it be produced in a facility operated by that company.

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Please mail by October 31, 1986.

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September/October 1986 Vol. XXIII, No. 5

American West

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Cover

For the third time Claude Dallas is wanted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. On March 30 of this year Dallas escaped from the Idaho State Penitentiary near Boise where he was serving a thirty-year sentence for the 1981 murder of two Idaho Fish and Game officers. A self-styled mountain man who considers himself above the law, Dallas has eluded the FBI in the desert land of northern Nevada. Late reports put him in the San Francisco Bay area where he is thought to be traveling with a woman companion. Having placed Dallas on its list of ten-most-wanted fugitives, the FBI is offering a $10,000 reward for his capture. In Idaho the Ada County Sheriff's office is collecting funds for a $25,000 reward for Dallas's capture.

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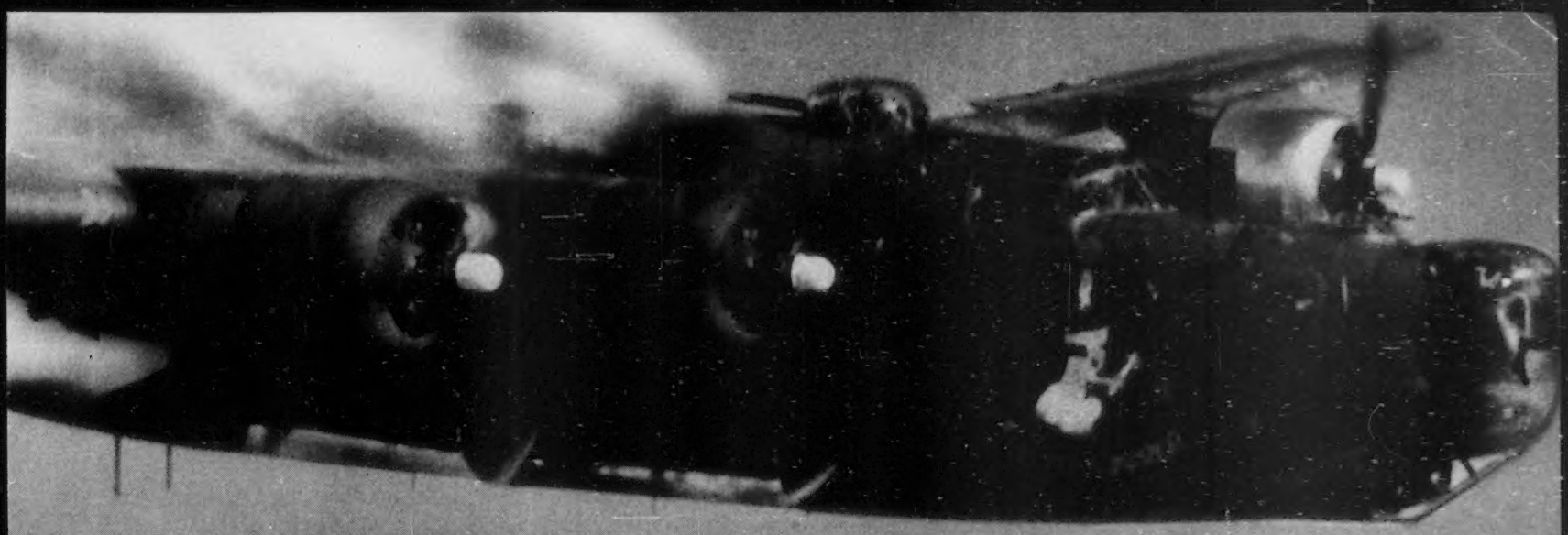

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Narrated by Walter Cronkite

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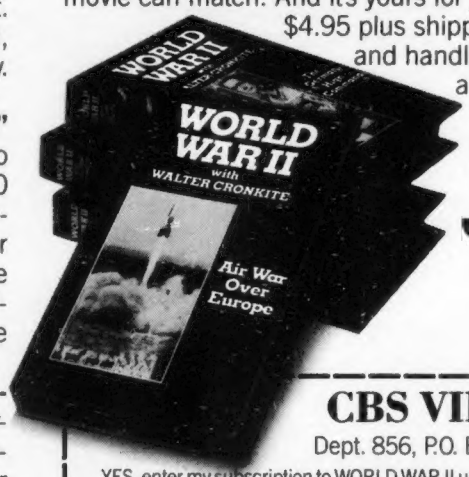

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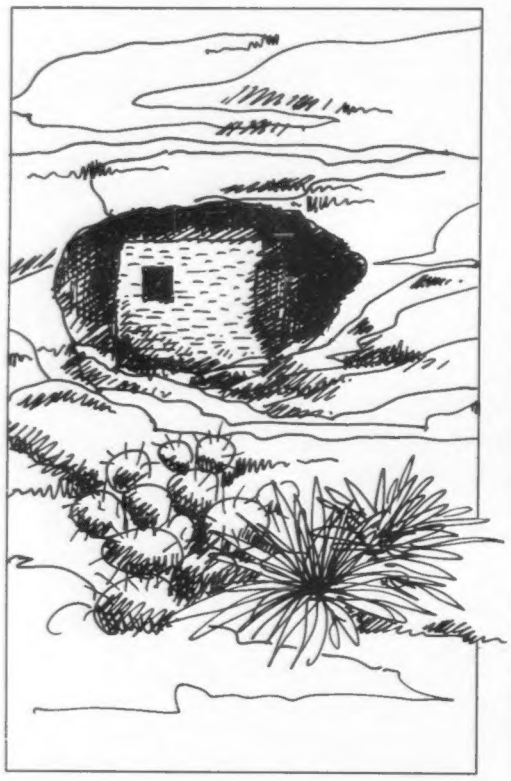
View from the West



Our very existence consists in our imagination of ourselves. Our best destiny is to imagine, at last, completely, who and what and that we are. The greatest tragedy that can befall us is to go unimagined.

— N. Scott Momaday

We went to the Gila in June to fish, but after we caught only a few non-keepers (no longer than an outstretched hand from heel to finger tip), the river cast another lure. For hours I'd ignored the splashing and shouting as my fishing companions leaped uninhibited into a deep pool. Sputtering and laughing they'd swim madly against the current until at last the river eased them, spent and yielding, into the shallows.

They'd been swimming for well over an hour while I beat my way up and down the banks, well away from their commotion, casting a flashing spinner into every likely hole and riffle. As fishless frustration mounted, I threw my lure into the more difficult spots beneath overhangs, against tree trunks, into scooped-out banks.

Casting for fish turned into repeated wading against the current, sliding precariously over green-skinned rocks, freeing hooks sunk into unyielding bark and coarse grass. Fishermen among the readers will recognize the mood and mind-set.

By the time I joined my sons I was well into the stage of muttering beneath my breath (the phase that just precedes cursing the river). My jeans were waterlogged to the waist. My leather wallet and all its contents were soaked from the hole I'd stepped into. One elbow and a knee throbbed with the hard rap they'd sustained as I stumbled over a particularly slippery rock, sacrificing those bony body parts to preserve my new spinning rig.

On top of everything I felt sorry for myself with a special brand of self-pity that's reserved for thwarted fishermen. By the time I joined my boys in their swimming hole, I was secretly put out with them for having a good time while I fished and suffered, bruised in body and ego, humiliatingly empty-handed.

But the river that thwarted me with its hidden fish now soothed my hot, scraped arms and legs, eased my aching elbow and knee. The swift current that had carried my spinner into the bank and lodged it firmly in underwater branches now rippled through my hair and along my body carrying away every care.

At once, unexpectedly, as sometimes happens in the mountains, I was filled with an intense, almost painful awareness of my surroundings: the canyon wrens trilling up the cliff face, the plash of river and rock, the smell of the sun against mud, tree, and flesh. Even the voices of my sons, quiet now, as they explored some deep place in the pool with long legs and toes, all mingled in a slow, perfectly turned now.

The moment slipped away as elusively as it had come. Soon we were packing gear and mounting horses for the return ride downriver. At a bend in the trail the cowboy who'd provided the horses and guided us took a little detour from the trail and splashed across the river, reining in his horse beneath a small camouflaged twist in the canyon. He pointed up the wall.

The little cliff dwelling blended seamlessly into the live rock. Except from this one vantage point, it was totally hidden from view, and nearly concealed even at this close range. At the base of the cliff was a hot spring. The river ran not more than twenty yards away.

A thirteenth-century Mogollon homestead, complete with running water, hot tub, and a live fish pond. Some archeologists tell us the Gila cliff dwellers lived here in the late 1200s and were gone without a trace in less than thirty or forty years. Their origins remain a mystery. The reasons for their departure speculation. Their destination unknown.

My sons scrambled up the cliff and disappeared into the little prehistoric house, only to emerge a moment later with a shrug, their hands upturned in the universal gesture — "nothing here!" In a few moments we were back on the trail, following the river out of the forest, going by the same path the last dwellers in that little house had taken. Where?

The wilderness, the river we fished, the pool we swam, all closed up behind us, as in a dream. The boys didn't look back — boys don't look back — but as we rode away I felt a weight of departures. There is a great, tangible sadness in the empty cliff dwellings of the Gila. There is something left behind. Something haunts the places where these people dwelled.

If archeologists . . . if *we* could sift our own spirits as thoroughly as scientists sift the sand of caves, we'd find the Mogollon, we'd know the "where."

Tom Pew

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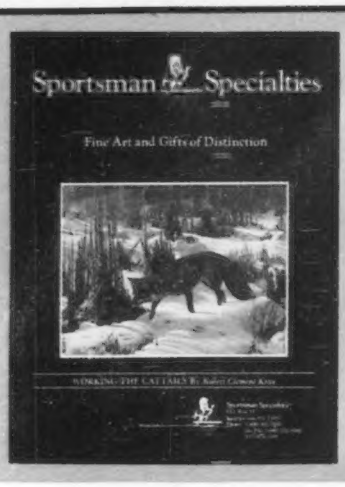

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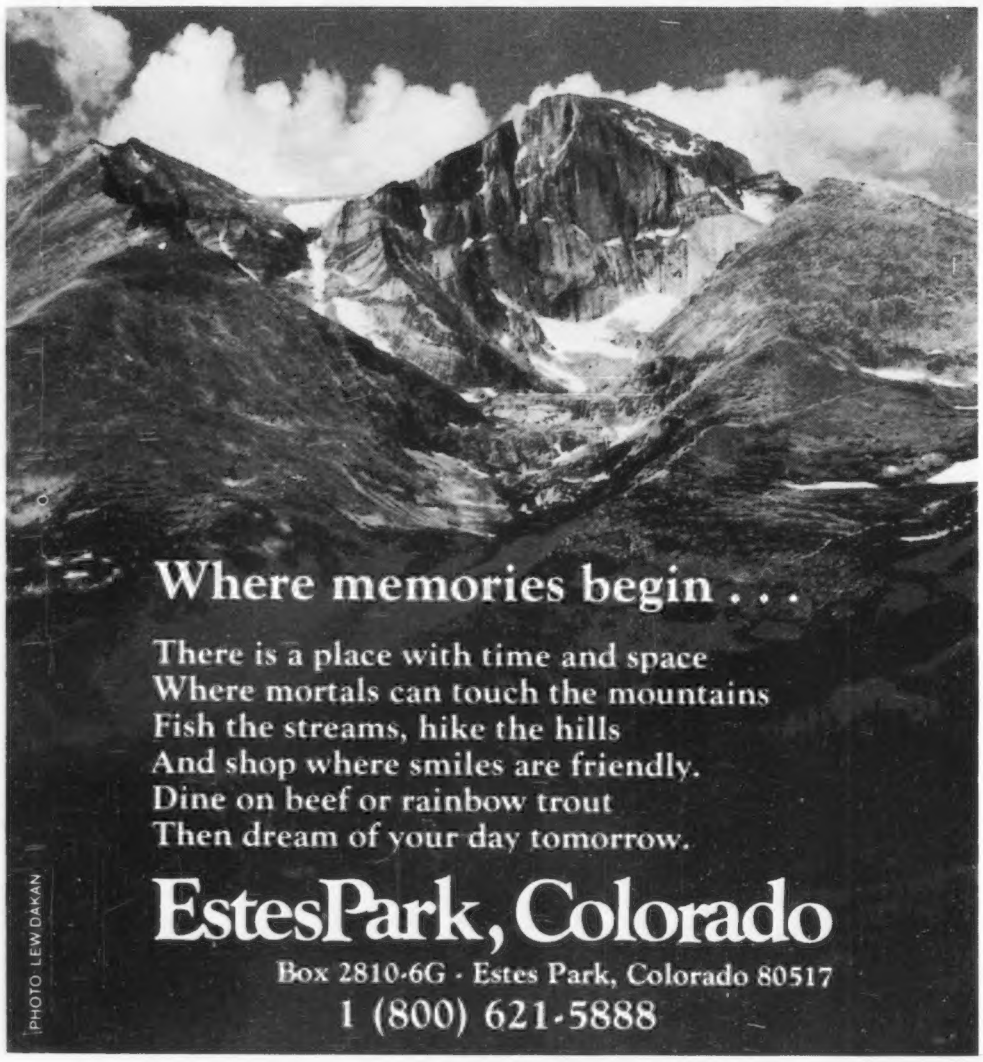
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Letters to the Editor

Okie kids

*Editor's note: Since the appearance of "Children of the Grapes of Wrath" by Jerry Stanley (*AMERICAN WEST, *March/April 1986), important developments have occurred regarding Leo Hart and the school he helped build for the Dust Bowl kids. On May 7, Phi Delta Kappa, an honors society in education, presented its Humanitarian of the Year award to Hart and further honored him by reading the article at the award banquet. NBC filmed the story of Leo Hart and the school in Arvin, California, and aired it on May 12 on a regular television broadcast of NBC nightly news. Negotiations are now underway with Hollywood producers to make "Children of the Grapes of Wrath" into a movie-of-the-week for a major TV network.* AMERICAN WEST *wishes Leo Hart the best, and we take pride in making the public aware of Hart's remarkable story.*

I enclose a check for another copy of your March/April 1986 issue that contains the fine article by Jerry Stanley about "Children of the Grapes of Wrath" and the very fine and dedicated teacher Leo Hart. I, too, was a Grapes of Wrath child of twelve, and our family worked in the same pea fields in the Imperial Valley (1930). We drove to northern California, however, and felt no discrimination in schools. We were lucky.

R. Mozelle Isham
Bellingham, Washington

Lonely desert trek

I've just had a great experience that I must share with you. I've done lots of reading over the years . . . you name it. But today I feel as I did when I first heard Mozart or saw my first genuine Modigliani or read my first Kerouac. The reason? I have just finished reading (with tears from the experience) Doug Peacock's "A Lonely Desert Rendezvous" (July/August). Absolutely the *greatest* piece of writing I have ever read.

Jack R. Rains
Amarillo, Texas

Warmth from Sibley stoves

The picture and article on the Sibley stove appearing in your July/August issue brought back memories of life in the U.S. Army prior to WW II. During the 1930s I was assigned to the 25th Field Artillery at Madison Barracks, New York, and we spent a lot of time at Pine Camp (now Fort Drum), New York, living in tents. The six-man pyramidal tents were heated with the Sibley stove.

In 1939 we moved to Fort Benning, Georgia, and were in tents during the winter of 1939/1940. At Benning the only fuel for the stoves was pinewood. The pitch in the pinewood caused a lot of sparks, with the always present danger of burning a tent, and resulted in an incident that was amusing to the troops. At battery formation one morning, the Battery Commander was giving a lecture on fire safety with the stoves when someone yelled "fire." As it turned out, the Battery Commander's tent was on fire.

Homer E. Stanton
Tucson, Arizona

B-Troop of Fort Huachuca

Regarding "Stagecoach — A Legend" by Bodie Thoene, May/June 1986: As much

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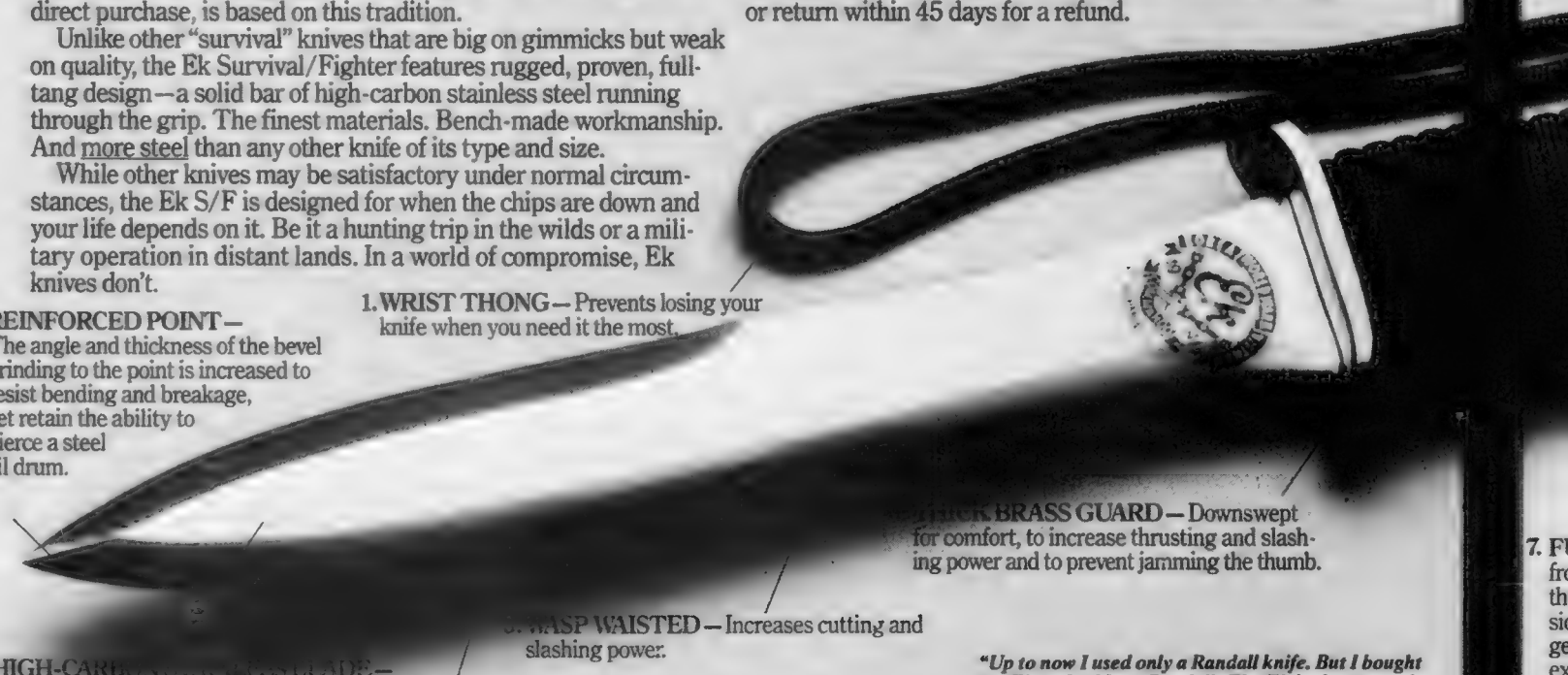

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D.R.

as we enjoy your magazine, we believe your journalist did the supporting cavalry extras, the B-Troopers from Fort Huachuca, a disservice. Of most interest to general readers, obviously, were the "biggies" — the Highwaymen, Johnny, Willie, Waylon, Kris, *et al* (and no one enjoys them more than I). However, by spotlighting these stars, you neglected to give adequate space to this remnant of the past, B-Troop of Fort Huachuca.

David Sanderson III
Starr Sanderson
Sierra Vista, Arizona

Coolidges in wonderland

"The Coolidges in Wonderland" by Horace M. Albright (July/August) delighted me. My husband Harold and I met in Yellowstone in 1929. I worked at Old Faithful Lodge as a waitress and he in the housekeeping cabins. Two years later we were married. Reading the article, we just lived over again our summer in Yellowstone — a highlight year.

Esther Templeman
Quarryville, Pennsylvania

Please send me an extra copy of your July/August issue. I want to send it to Captain Carroll Roberts in Coco Beach, Florida, as he was a Park Ranger when President Coolidge visited Yellowstone. I was a "Pearl Diver" at the Transportation "eatery." I also roomed next door to Packy McFarland who was our first Superintendent of Teton National Park. Horace Albright arranged that. I have just written to Mr. Albright.

Ross Kreamer
Memphis, Tennessee

Brickbats

Regarding your AW Quiz, July/August: You do not get butter from milk. You get cream from milk and butter from cream. I've churned a few pounds of butter for my mother and grandmother, and I don't believe the source of butter has changed.

R. D. McAlister
Page, Arizona

Your magazine has so many features that delight me that it is with some sadness that I ask you to cancel my subscription and to remit the balance to me. Your pages are progressively (an oxymoron, that) coming to resemble *Soldier of Fortune* and others of the far right with their sick fetish for guns. Your politics taste of ashes and death. Mine savor life. I'm sorry.

Robert W. Smith
Bethesda, Maryland

Bent's Old Fort

In your November/December 1985 issue you had an article by Sam Arnold about the Winter Quarters program at Bent's Old Fort in Colorado. I wrote to the address in your article for more information, and I was able to attend Winter Quarters at Bent's Old Fort and had one of the best experiences of my life. It was like going back to 1846. I recommend this program highly for any of your readers who are interested in such living history programs.

Cathy Westinghouse
Bay City, Texas

AMERICAN WEST welcomes letters from its readers. Letters may be cut for reasons of space, without altering their meaning. Please address: Letters to the Editor, AMERICAN WEST, 3033 N. Campbell Ave., Tucson, Ariz. 85719.

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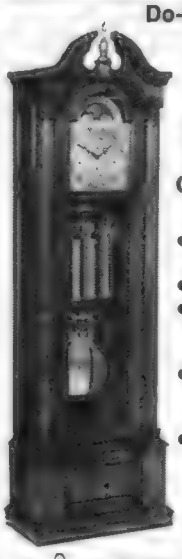

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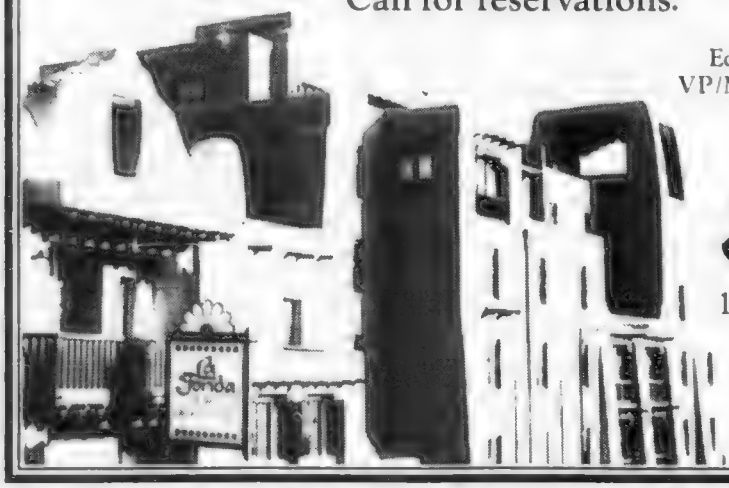

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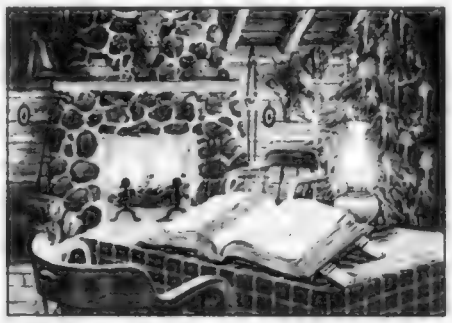
2451 May Peace be your Gift at Christmas and your Treasure through all the Year—*artist Katheryn Williams B.*



1205 Come join a dream of going back to those old-fashioned days...may you have a Merry Christmas in the good old-fashioned way! **A MEMORY OF CHRISTMAS**—*artist Joe Stahley*

May the trail rise up to meet you,
may the wind be always at your back,
may the sun shine warm upon your face,
the snow fall soft on the plains around you
and until we meet again ...
may God hold you in the hollow of His hand.

1304 Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year—*artist Gordon Snidow*

3253 Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year (with "Take Time To See", 24-line nature poem)—*artist Ted Blaylock*

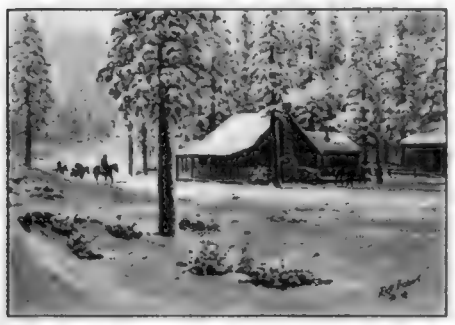
2243 Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for the New Year! **THE FRIENDLY ROADRUNNER ON DESERT PATROL**—*artist Ruth M. Lau*

2483 Wishing you all the Peace and Love of this Holy Season (with "...there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God...", Luke 2:13-14)—*artist Beverly Carrick Snow*

1496 May yours be a joyful Christmas and your New Year Happy!—*artist Hildred Goodwine*

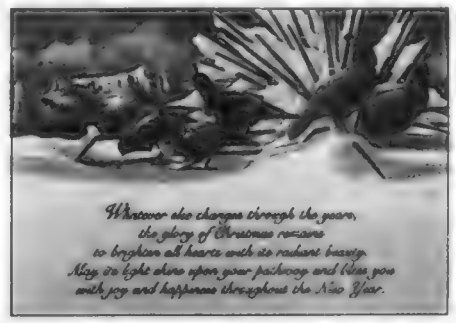
4192 May the Peace and Joy of Christmas be with you through all the Year (with "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will towards men." Luke 2:14)—*photo by Fletcher Manley*

2140 Merry Christmas and Happy New Year (with "May your moccasins make happy tracks in many snows and the rainbow always touch your shoulder.)—*artist Lisa Danielle Lorimer*



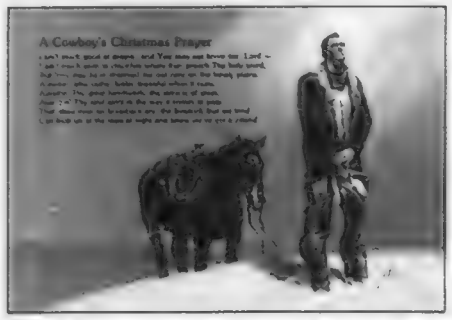
2144 May you and yours this Christmas Day and every day this coming year be blessed with health and happiness **WHEN GOOD FRIENDS GATHER**—*artist Russ Vickers*

2388 Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year (with "In every home, in every heart...", 4-line poem)—*artist Ted Blaylock*


Whatever else changes through the years,
the glory of Christmas remains
to brighten all hearts with its radiant beauty.
May its light shine upon your pathway and bless you
with joy and happiness throughout the New Year.

3319 Whatever else changes through the years, the glory of Christmas remains...may its light...bless you with joy... Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!—*artist Gene Dieckhoner*

2421 Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from our new digs!—*artist Ted Blaylock*



2222 **"A Cowboy's Christmas Prayer"** May the Peace and Good Will of Christmas always be with you (with "A Cowboy's Christmas Prayer", 26-line Western poem)—*artist Gordon Snidow*

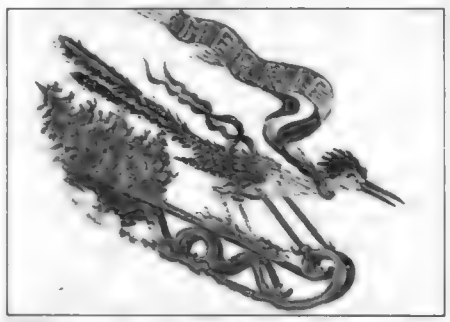
1614 Wishing you all the love and promise that Christmas brings (with "Christmas is but one more word for love")—*artist Paula Butler*

1674 ...and best wishes for a Happy New Year from Our Outfit to Yours **WHOA, HOSS, WHOA**—*artist Vic Donahue*

3368 With Best Wishes at Christmas and Happiness through all the Coming Year—*artist Lisa Danielle Lorimer*

1424 May the Peace and Joy of Christmas be with you through all the Year—*artist John W. Hilton*

2322 May the Spirit of Christmas abide with you throughout the Coming Year (with "The heavens declare the Glory of God...", Psalm 19:1)—*artist Ruth M. Lau*



3372 May your Holiday Season be merry and bright!—*artist Lucille Martin*

1286 With Best Wishes at Christmas and Happiness through all the Coming Year—*artist Paul Salisbury*

2422 May the meaning of the Season be deeper, its friendships stronger...as Christmas comes to you...(with "A Cowboy's Christmas Prayer" by S. Omar Barker)—*artist Dan Mieduch*

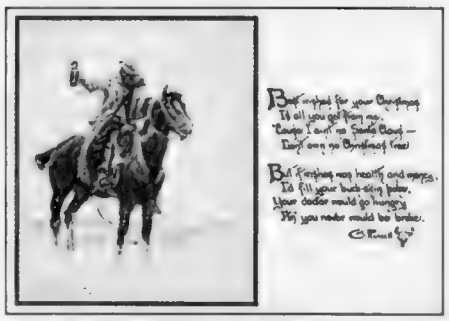
1651 May the warmth and love that is all around us as Christmas time fill your heart with joy... (with "Tidings of Great Joy", 5-line inspirational poem)—*artist Pawnee Indian Brummett EchoHawk*

2118 May you have the Spirit of Christmas which is Peace, the Gladness...which is Hope, the Heart ...which is Love (with Matthew 2:9, "...and lo, the star, which they saw in the east...")—*artist J. Claflin*

2398 May Christmas bring Friends to your Fireside, Peace to your Pathway, and Good Health throughout the New Year—*artist Robert Wagoner*

2454 May the Peace and Happiness of the Christmas Season abide with you through all the Coming Year (with 2-line inspirational poem)—*artist Beverly Carrick Snow*

3050 May the Peace and Joy of Christmas be with you through all the Year (with "The Star That Stayed 'Til Morning", 7-line inspirational poem)—*artist Garé Barks*

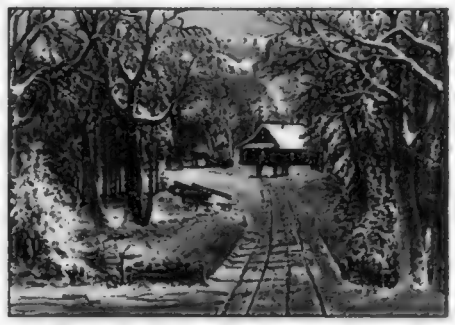

Best wishes for your Christmas
It's all you get from me.
'Cause I ain't no Santa Claus—
Don't own no Christmas sleigh
But if wishes were healthy and money,
I'd fill your stocking today.
Your doctor would go hungry,
My, you never could be broke.

2404 Best Wishes for your Christmas is all you get from me, 'cause I aint no Santa Claus... Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year—*artist Charles M. Russell*

2225 May Peace be your Gift at Christmas and your Treasure through all the Year —*artist Pawnee Indian Brummett EchoHawk*

3375 Merry Christmas and Happy New Year **ROADRUNNER'S CHRISTMAS**—*artist Ruth M. Lau*

2426 May your Holiday Season be filled with cheer! (with "Twas the night before Christmas, when me and my horse..." 12-line poem)—*artist Boots Reynolds*

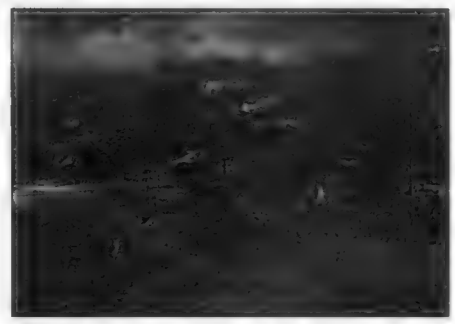


1140 May Christmas bring Friends to your Fireside, Peace to your Pathway, and Good Health... **THE WONDER OF CHRISTMAS FILLS THE NIGHT**—*artist Bill Shaddix*

1113 Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year **THE ROADRUNNER AND HIS DESERT FRIENDS**—*artist Ruth M. Lau*

1261 May the Peace and Joy of Christmas be with you through all the Year (with "When man begins to understand...", 4-line inspirational poem)—*artist Vel Miller*

2431 Wishing you an abundance of the good things in life at Christmas and throughout the New Year **BRINGIN' HOME A TREE**—*artist Dan Mieduch*



2410 Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year (with "In every home, in every heart...", 4-line poem)—*artist Ted Blaylock*

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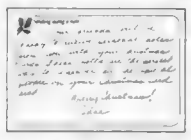

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Western Geology Illustrated

Our Far West Is a Geologic Crazy Quilt

by Stephen L. Harris

"A land of shreds and patches!" This misquotation of the poet aptly suggests the crazy-quilt makeup of western North America. The Far West is not an original part of the continent, but consists of bits and pieces of Earth's crust that originated far from their present locations and were later grafted onto the western margin of North America.

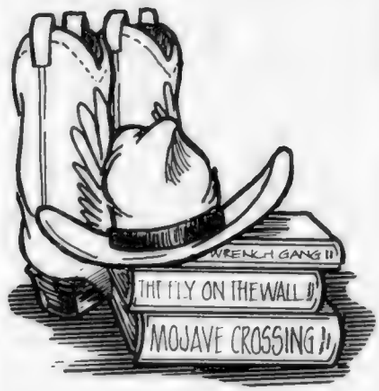
A traveler zig-zagging the length of California today may drive over as many as fifty different land fragments known as exotic or foreign "terranes." In contrast to the familiar word "terrain," denoting a geographical region or the topographical features of a certain tract of land, "terrane" refers to a geologic entity that differs markedly in both composition and history from neighboring areas.

A terrane does not have the same family history as the surrounding landforms. It is literally an outlander, a stranger of foreign birth that has somehow migrated to a geographical region with which it has little in common.

The West is a mosaic of exotic terranes, a jigsaw puzzle of distinct crustal slabs and segments that were formed thousands of miles away from their location today. Most of California, the Pacific Northwest, British Columbia, and Alaska are collages of broken, foreign-born fragments that originated somewhere in the Pacific Ocean and were then transported vast distances until they came ashore to join our continent.

Bearing fossils of ancient plant and animal life not native to North America, these exotic terranes give evidence of their alien nature. In the long process of reaching their present positions, the terranes were commonly split up, their fragments rotated and sent traveling in different directions. Visitors to Idaho's Hells Canyon area will see formations that came from some unknown point in the equatorial Pacific and belong to the same geologic sequence that now forms the lofty Wrangell Mountains in Alaska, 1200 miles distant.

DRAWN FOR AMERICAN WEST BY MARY ANN KRUGER



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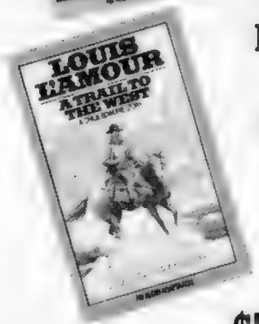

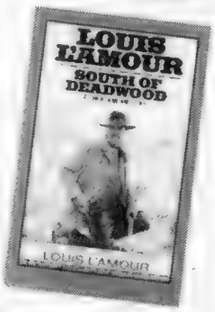

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Many of the discrete terranes that have been crushed and glued to our western shores were once islands probably similar in size and appearance to modern Japan, Indonesia, New Guinea, New Zealand, and others that we find in the western Pacific. Some were large enough to be called "microcontinents," like the one that docked in Washington state fifty million years ago to become the rugged North Cascades in northwestern Washington.

The notion that ostensibly solid landmasses have slipped and slithered around the globe, colliding and fusing to create our Western landscape, may seem incredible, but it is a natural consequence of the Earth's plate movements. As geologists discovered a few decades ago, the hard outer shell of our planet is divided into about a dozen large and many small rocky slabs or plates that are in constant motion in respect to one another. Like giant rafts, the plates carry continents, islands, and ocean basins on their backs as they slide over the hot, plastic material of the Earth's mantle.

Over eons of geologic time, the continents have not only drifted over Earth's spongy mantle, they have smashed together, broken apart to open new ocean basins between them, and realigned themselves into ever-changing patterns. About 200 million years ago virtually all Earth's present land surface was part of a gigantic supercontinent, called Pangaea. Vast fractures or "rifts" then split Pangaea into several different landmasses, gradually separating North and South America from Africa and Europe and opening up the Atlantic Ocean in the process.

The Atlantic is still expanding as floods of molten rock erupt along fractures on the sea floor, creating the submarine mountain range known as the mid-Atlantic Ridge. Repeated lava extrusion along the ridge forms new sea floor, forcing older sea floor laterally away from the eruptive centers. As the Atlantic basin expands, North America floats westward, and the Pacific Ocean grows correspondingly smaller.

Underwater eruptions along fractures in the Pacific Ocean plate also create new sea floor, thrusting it laterally away from eruptive zones toward the neighboring continents. As it advances ponderously toward the coast of Asia, sections of North America still encounter and override the dense, heavy Pacific plate, which sinks beneath the continental margin and is consumed in the underlying mantle.

Over millions of years, the expanding ocean floor acted like a conveyer belt, transporting formerly mid-oceanic islands and microcontinents to an inevitable encounter with the leading edge of North America. Piece by piece, once-autonomous landforms were smashed against the granite wall of the

NORTHERN CASCADES NATIONAL PARK COURTESY USGS

continent, creating a coastline that is a complex accretion of alien terranes.

The Okanogan microcontinent, which forms an extensive highland in eastern Washington and southern British Columbia, docked about 100 million years ago. The North Cascades microcontinent merged with it fifty million years later. The West continued to grow as the Pacific plate dived under North America, scraping off thick deposits of sea floor sediments against the continental margin as it descended, adding new building blocks to the Western terrane.

Most of the coast ranges of California, Oregon, and Washington were formed when lighter-weight oceanic sediments and slabs of basalt, originally emplaced underwater, broke free of the descending plate. These lighter rock masses, compressed and folded, rose along the continental edge to form today's coastal hills and mountains, including the spectacular Olympic Range in northwest Washington.

Most of the recognized alien terranes were imported to the West during late Mesozoic and early Cenozoic time, between about forty and 150 million years ago. Although growth by accretion of oceanic islands has now ceased in the Far West, Earth's rocky plates continue to shift position, rearranging the global map. Seemingly stable landmasses are even now traveling toward destinations far removed from their familiar sites, ultimately creating some surprising geographical combinations.

Much of the California coast, for example, is headed for Alaska. Having long ago overridden an ancient subduction zone, Cali-

fornia (south of Mendocino) no longer has the Pacific sea floor sinking beneath it. Instead, the Pacific plate is grinding north-northwestward alongside the California coast. The line of demarcation between the Pacific and North American plates is the San Andreas Fault, source of some of the West's most destructive earthquakes (See AMERICAN WEST, May/June, 1985). As the Pacific plate lurches along the continental margin, it is inexorably reshaping the geography of North America. After relocating the site of Los Angeles in the suburbs of San Francisco (which sits on the continental side of the fault), continued plate movement will eventually transport southern California's once sunny beaches to the Arctic climes of Alaska.

Another Western state is also destined for relocation. The Hawaiian Islands are the tops of the world's highest mountains, volcanoes that rise 30,000 to 32,000 feet above the Pacific Ocean floor. Sitting atop the moving mid-Pacific plate, each of the islands was built when it was stationed above a "hot spot" in the mantle, the source of molten rock (magma) for the Hawaiian volcanoes. As the Pacific plate slides northwestward over the relatively stationary hot spot, it carries the volcanic islands with it. At present all the active volcanoes, including Mauna Loa and Kilauea, are located on the big island of Hawaii, which stands atop the subterranean magma supply. Plate movement has transported the older islands away from the magma reservoir, so that as one travels northwest along the Hawaiian archipelago, the volcanoes are extinct and the islands progressively older.

Creeping northwestward at the rate of about four inches per year, the island flotilla will eventually be swallowed in the Aleutian Trench, a deep submarine trough that parallels Alaska's Aleutian Islands and Russia's Kamchatka Peninsula and marks the northern border of the Pacific plate. Islands now flourishing in tropical splendor beneath blue skies in time will be forced downward into the Aleutian subduction zone, crushed in the molten darkness of Earth's interior.

If they escape remelting in the subduction mill, some island fragments may become embedded in formations along the Aleutian chain. As late twentieth century geologists discovered exotic terranes in our American West, so geologists of the distant future may perceive remnants of a tropical paradise amid the glacier-scoured Alaskan landscape.

A thoroughly revised second edition of **Stephen L. Harris's** Fire and Ice: Our Western Volcanoes *will be published next winter by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc.*

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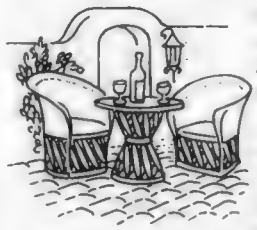

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Among Buffalo Bill's clients who fell in love with the Wyoming country and came back summer after summer was William R. Coe of New York City. Following years of hunting with the inimitable Western scout, Coe purchased the Carter Mountain property in 1913, including Cody's original hunting cabin and log barn. Since that time, several generations of Coes have made their summer home in their rambling lodge on the ranch. W. R. Coe's interest in Wyoming blossomed into a full-fledged fascination with Western Americana, and he became one of the foremost collectors of Western books, maps, manuscripts, and pictures.

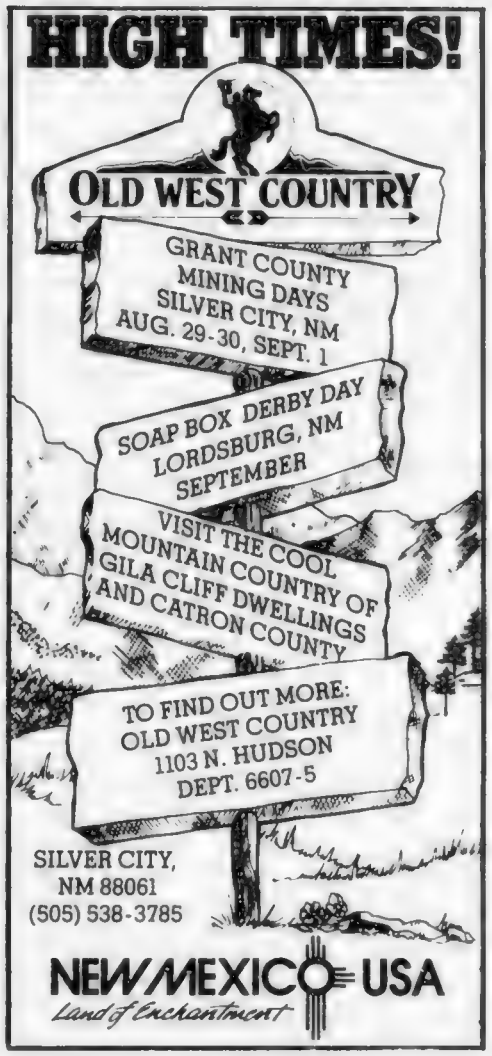
The heir to the property, Robert Coe, continued his father's interest in Americana and his charitable activities. At Robert Coe's direction, the Coe lodge and surrounding acreage, including the original Buffalo Bill hunting cabin and barn, became the property of a number of nonprofit organizations upon his death in 1985, the principal beneficiary being the Buffalo Bill Memorial Association of Cody, Wyoming. This historic property will be sold so that the proceeds can be distributed among the charitable institutions involved.

Where the marsupials roamed. Many people might assume that marsupials evolved in Australia, home of some of the better-known pouched mammals like kangaroos and koalas, but recent fossil evidence, unearthed this past spring, points to North America as the place of origin. Jeffrey Eaton and James Kirkland, graduate students at the University of Colorado, Boulder, discovered a marsupial jaw embedded in rocks about 100 million years old in the Kaiparowits Plateau area of southern Utah. Known as the Dakota jaw because it was found in the Dakota formation of rock, the fossil is at least twenty million years older than any marsupial remains previously located.

According to Museum of Northern Arizona curator of paleontology Richard Cifelli, the jaw is the first mammal remain found that dates back to the middle of the Cretaceous period. Many mammal fossils have been discovered from the end of the Cretaceous, coinciding with the decline of the dinosaur, and a few from the beginning, but almost nothing from in between. Cifelli says that this find indicates that marsupials did originate in North America, despite the dearth of current native marsupials. (The common opossum migrated to North America from South America after the Isthmus of Panama was formed, several million years ago.)

Geronimo! One hundred years after the elusive Apache Indian warrior Geronimo was finally defeated, Chiricahua Apache are visiting their ancestral homeland in southeastern Arizona to commemorate the last formal surrender of an American Indian to the United States. In 1886, following Geronimo's surrender, Chiricahua Apache were confined as prisoners of war for twenty-seven years in Fort Marion, Florida, and later Fort Sill, Oklahoma. After their release in 1913, Arizona would not allow the Chiricahua to return; some stayed in Oklahoma while others moved to the Mescalero Apache reservation in New Mexico.

To observe the centennial of a cessation of hostilities, the National Park Service, the Arizona Historical Society, the U.S. Army, and Apache tribal representatives have organized a series of events near Fort Bowie, Arizona, for September 4–7. Included is a four-day trail ride from Skeleton Canyon, the surrender site, to Fort Bowie. Thirteen of the original prisoners of war, all of whom were born in captivity, have been invited to attend the commemorative ceremonies. The public is welcome to attend events like a war dance, corn dance, and crafts demonstrations by tribe members at Fort Bowie, September 6.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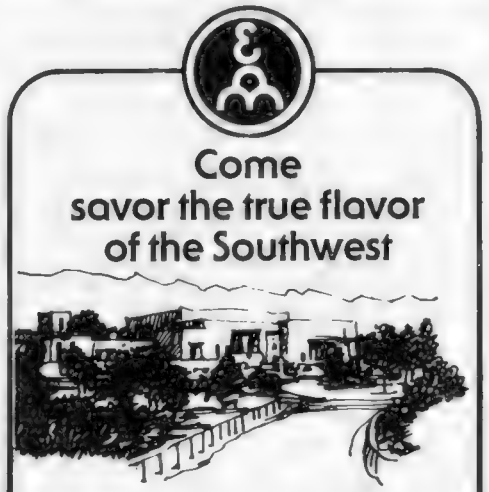
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Convicted-killer Claude Dallas runs from the law

WANTED

by Hugh Nichols

On Sunday evening, March 30, 1986, convicted-killer Claude Dallas cut a triangular hole through two chain-link fences enclosing the visitors' facility at the Idaho State Penitentiary near Boise, where he was serving a thirty-year term. Almost three hours later, his prison-issue baseball cap was found outside the outer fence. A pair of prison-issue eyeglasses was located next to tire marks in the nearby visitors' parking lot. Geneva Holman, a Reno woman who had raised $28,000 for Dallas' s court defense, visited Dallas at the prison immediately preceding his escape. Her silver Mercedes was impounded Monday morning just north of Winnemucca, Nevada, after the Humboldt County Sheriff' s office received a tip that a silver Mercedes dropped Dallas off at George Nielsen' s Paradise Hill Bar late Sunday night. (The car was later released after a check for Dallas' s fingerprints turned out negative.) Bloodhounds using the baseball cap for scent identification found Dallas' s scent on a stool at Nielsen' s bar on Monday and in an empty trailer house near Paradise Hill on Tuesday. The dogs traced Dallas' s scent from the trailer house to U.S. 95 nearby, where they lost it.

Reconstructing the escape after the fact, Idaho Warden A. J. Arave indicated Dallas could have acquired wire cutters anytime while under "medium custody." In medium custody, inmates have free access to the main prison yard, job and recreation sites, and dormitories. Arave said Dallas should have remained under more restrictive "close custody," but the prison' s custody classification system has built-in time limits. He was not surprised that Dallas escaped. "A pair of wire cutters will get you out of this place any day of the week." The wire cutters did not belong to the prison, however. Neither section of the fence where the holes were cut is visible from the single, guard tower overlooking that area of the prison. Arave said Dallas most likely would have been released from prison in 1989, considering time granted to him for good behavior.

Claude Dallas was placed on the FBI' s list of ten-most-wanted fugitives on May 16. Because of the wide public exposure generated by the listing, fugitives on the list remain at large an average of 157 days before capture.

At press time, reports placed Dallas in the San Francisco Bay area. Newspapers carried accounts relating that Margaret Lundy, believed to be traveling with Dallas, was seen in Newark, about thirty miles southeast of San Francisco. Lundy is not wanted for any crime, but the FBI would like to talk with her as she has reportedly told friends that she is traveling with Dallas. Lundy visited Dallas while he was imprisoned. She quit her job as a secretary in Palo Alto, California, two days before Dallas escaped, and then she dropped from sight.

The FBI is offering a $10,000 reward for the capture of Dallas, and the Ada County, Idaho, Sheriff s Office is collecting funds for a $25,000 reward. After the sighting in Newark, professional bounty hunter Ralph Thorson announced that he expects to capture Dallas. Thorson claims to have run down 12,000 fugitives during his lengthy career.

Surrounded by armed lawmen, Claude Dallas, Jr., is wheeled into the Owyhee County Courthouse in Murphy, Idaho, a few days after his capture in April 1982. He had been a fugitive since January 1981 when he killed two Idaho Fish and Game officers. Dallas's left foot was still swollen from a superficial wound he received during his capture. Security was heavy because authorities feared that friends of Dallas might try to free him or that friends of the two slain officers might seek revenge.

ED AGAIN

PHOTO BY WAYNE CORNELL FOR IDAHO PRESS-TRIBUNE

BULL BASIN IS A NATURAL, MILE-LONG AMPHITHEATER interrupting the precipitous basalt canyon of the upper South Fork of the Owyhee River in the extreme southwest corner of Idaho. Here the river calms momentarily, easing its way across flats that bear only sagebrush, cheat, and bitterbrush. In 1980 Don and Eddy Carlin had recently leased the 45 Ranch and turned in 220 head of cattle on about 200 square miles of public range in Bull Basin. Located twelve miles upstream from their ranch house at the confluence of the South Fork and the Little Fork of the Owyhee River, the basin was essential to the success of the Carlins' new cattle venture. A centerpiece in their grazing allotment from the Bureau of Land Management, it provided sheltered winter range and reliable year-round water. It was also isolated enough to favor running a few traps for bobcats each winter. Prime pelt prices had climbed to around $250 in 1980. Trapping provided a financial hedge the Carlins had come to count on in tight times.

Now, near the end of 1980, someone had set up a winter camp right in the middle of Bull Basin. Eddy and his father spotted the camp a week before Christmas, while hunting coyotes along the South Fork canyon's east rim. Sometime back, they had herded a bunch of steers through the gate on the basin's rim, and something or somebody had run them out. Maybe it was the man they could see from a mile away through Eddy's rifle scope. The Carlins had trapped the place the year before and expected to trap it again, when the Idaho season opened on January 9. So Eddy rode back up there on December 30 to try to talk the man off. He even wore his Ruger Security Six, something he normally didn't do on his daily horse patrols of the 45's range.

Eddy found the camp vacant except for two mules. Outside a canvas wall tent on the river's east bank, he observed one bobcat pelt on a stretcher and another hide turned and draped over a clump of greasewood. That represented about $500 the 45 Ranch wouldn't see next year. A deer's hindquarter hung from a cornerpost. While Eddy was investigating, a plane flew over the canyon, circled the basin, and flew back out. Fording the shallow river on his horse, Eddy saw the head of a large mule deer buck lying on the crumbled rock wall of one of the basin's two cabin ruins. Two small deer carcasses hung under an orange tarp inside the four standing walls of the other ruin. God alone knew what one man would want with three deer at once, unless he was using the meat for trap bait.

With one of the mules dogging his horse, Eddy re-crossed the river and headed downstream towards home. Then, he noticed a man approaching along the opposite bank. The man was wearing glasses and an old-fashioned, round-crowned cowboy hat with a flat brim. He wore a beard and a ponytail. A rifle rested in the crook of his arm, and a pistol was on his hip. Eddy reined up and yelled across, "How do you get rid of a mule you don't want?" The man stopped and just glared back at him. After maybe a minute, Eddy rode across again and told the man who he was and why he was there. "Whose plane was that?" the man demanded. Eddy said he thought probably it was the BLM's.

Inviting Eddy back to his tent, the man finally introduced himself as "Dallas." Eddy then recognized him as the same man he and his father had run into over in Star Valley near the Idaho-Oregon line two years before. Eddy recalled two things about the man. He was never without a pistol on his belt, and he didn't give a damn about the legal trapping season. "That's a nice cat there," Eddy said, pointing to the turned hide. "That cat thinks it's January 9, and don't tell him any different," Dallas said. He added that it was his habit to take his cats when they were "prime."

UP CLOSE EDDY NOTICED THAT DALLAS'S PISTOL WAS a square-framed, big caliber, stainless revolver. Probably a .357 magnum—too big for dispatching trapped cats or coyotes. The rifle looked like a .22, but it was a re-issue of some fancy historical model with an octagonal barrel. Inside the tent, Eddy could see another heavy rifle and a shotgun. They got down to working out an agreement about trapping territory. Dallas would take the west side of the river and the Carlins the east. Eddy mentioned that the Idaho Fish and Game generally checked out the Carlins' traplines every year. Dallas could just about figure they would visit him before the winter was out. "I'll be ready for them," he said. Dallas also made a point to tell Eddy that he wasn't a government man, that he didn't believe in man-made laws. "If we have any trouble over trapping," he said, "it'll be personal trouble."

Maybe it was the display of weaponry. Maybe it was the plain contempt for game laws, or the talk about "personal trouble." Maybe it was just the cold-eyed way the man had looked at Eddy across the river, and later too, when they were talking. Whatever it was, it spooked Eddy while he was still at Dallas's tent in Bull Basin. And afterward, on his ride home, Eddy recognized that what he felt down in his belly was fear.

Five days later more immediate trouble confronted the Carlins. They found illegally baited bobcat traps out towards Juniper Basin to the north of their ranch house. Two Oregon trappers, Sam Scheaver and Don Carter, had moved in on the 45, even though they had previously agreed not to. Jumping the season and using hanging bait, these two might trap the area clean in short order. Don Carlin was especially concerned about the illegal sets. Last year he, himself, had been cited by a tough, no-nonsense Idaho warden named Bill Pogue because he hadn't properly tagged his traps with his name and address. Don didn't want a warden thinking he was using visible bait now. That night the Carlins made the two-hour drive to Owyhee, located in the Nevada half of the Duck Valley Reservation. Don phoned Bill Pogue from Delbert Jim's house about 10:00 P.M. on Sunday, January 4, 1981.

A Conservation Officer with the Idaho Fish and Game for fifteen years, Bill Pogue was tall and still lean at fifty years of age. He'd been a Marine and later the police chief in Winnemucca, Nevada, for one year. But after twenty-nine years of marriage and four children, he was mainly a family man whose first love was field work as an Idaho "C.O." Although the Owyhee country was no longer his assigned territory, he always jumped at an excuse to make a trip down there. The Owyhee desert and its wildlife had remained a permanent fascination with him. And there was nowhere in that southwest corner of Idaho that was more than a five-hour

drive from his home base in Garden Valley.

It was 7:00 A.M. when the light green, four-wheel-drive Dodge pickup with the Fish and Game insignia on its doors pulled into the Carlins' ranch yard. Bill Pogue introduced his younger partner as Conley Elms, an Idaho C.O. for three years. Elms was in his midthirties, soft spoken and unassuming. He probably had almost a hundred pounds on Eddy's two hundred. Pogue was wearing a sidearm on his belt, and Elms wore a shoulder holster. Don filled the officers in about the illegal sets over breakfast. Stopping at the kitchen door on the way out, Pogue asked if any other trappers were working the area. Eddy told him George Poland and Delbert Jim were, and he described where they were trapping. Then Eddy's wife, Joann, mentioned Dallas's name. Pogue didn't seem to recognize it and asked for details. Eddy told him about the camp in Bull Basin and the deer and the cat hides he'd seen.

During breakfast, Eddy had agreed to guide the wardens to the illegal trapline north of the ranch house. He led the way in his own pickup. At the first set, Pogue authorized Eddy to pull out any other baited bobcat sets while the wardens looked for the Oregon trappers. Eddy met them at the ranch's branding corrals down on the river about midmorning. They'd found Don Carter and written him a ticket for trapping out of season, possession of game bird parts, and using game bird parts for bait.

Pogue asked Eddy for more information about what he'd seen at Bull Basin. He enquired about the road through Devil's Corral, and if they could get there that way. Eddy explained how to get on the road and spot the landmarks and then invited the officers to return for dinner and spend the night. Pogue said, "You can count on it." Before leaving, Pogue asked what kind of person Eddy thought Dallas was. What could they expect of him? Eddy said he didn't really know him very well. He did know that Dallas always wore a gun, though. Eddy added that he didn't trust the man and cautioned them not to turn their backs on him.

"All right, we'll keep each other covered," said Pogue. The Carlins waited dinner until almost ten o'clock that night.

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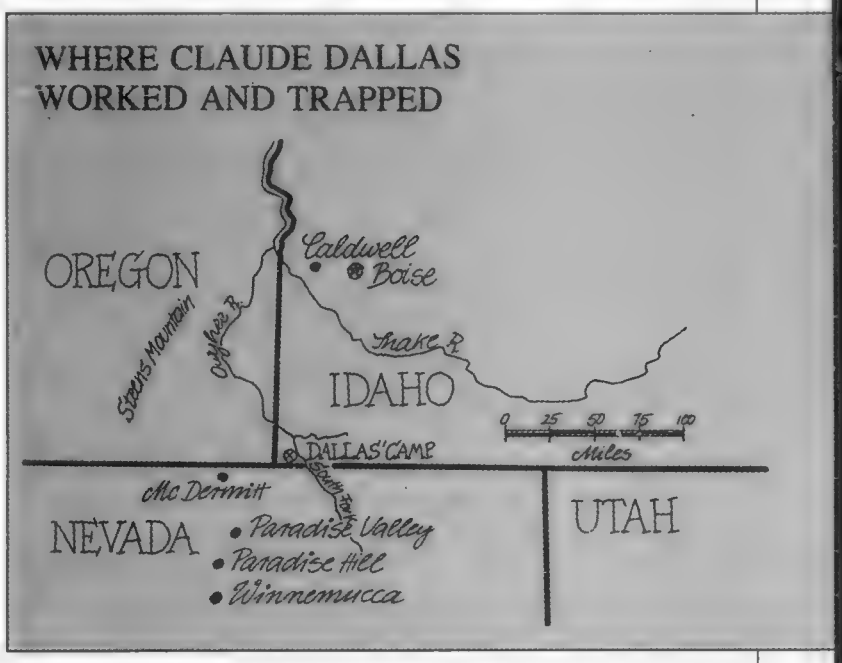
JIM STEVENS PULLED OUT ON THE CANYON RIM above Bull Basin at 11:30 A.M. on January 5. During the five and a half hours it had taken him to cover the hundred miles from Paradise Hill, he'd been tempted to turn his '77 Blazer around more than once. Fog seemed to blanket the whole Owyhee desert that morning. But he stuck it out, and now he was looking forward to seeing his friend Claude Dallas. He'd known Claude since 1976, when Stevens first moved to Winnemucca from southern Idaho. They shared a fascination with the outdoors and the historical West. In fact, at times, Claude almost seemed to him a living replica of parts of that history.

Stevens had been itching to return to Bull Basin since December 3, when he first saw the place. He was one of a group of five friends who helped Claude move in and set up his winter camp. As an amateur collector, Stevens was interested in two ruined cabins that he spotted across the river, as well as a number of old wagon wheels. He knew the Tuscarora miners had kept cattle there in the late 1800s. Ox freighters had changed stock there. Indians had used the basin, and probably, prehistoric man — maybe even the Spaniards. Who knew what artifacts the place might hold?

Stevens fired the pre-arranged signal shots with the pistol George Nielsen had insisted he bring along. (Nielsen was the Paradise Hill bar owner who was Claude's business partner and general benefactor.) He heard a shot to the west, but after a half-hour wait, there was still no sign of Claude. Deciding to hike on down to the camp, Stevens rolled his shotgun in his sleeping bag under one arm and tucked a small styrofoam cooler full of food under the other. He met Claude where the trail levels off just below the initial pitch through the rimrocks. Claude was wearing a green packsack over a loose-fitting, yellow raincoat and his ever-present cowboy hat. Claude seemed glad to see him. He asked if there were groceries up on the rim, and if Stevens had brought some fruit. Stevens



wondered if Claude had done any good. He said he had a couple of cats, but the weather had been so warm the animals weren't moving around. Stevens mentioned the pistachio pudding his wife had made and some brownies he'd brought. Claude said, "We're going to have a good time." Then he continued on his way to the Blazer for a load of groceries.

Stevens headed down to the camp. The canyon below the rim was completely free of fog. He dumped his bag and food in front of the tent and wanting to take a look at the cats, untied the tent flaps and went in. The two pelts leaned on stretchers against the back wall. There was a raccoon hide as well. Outside, Stevens retied the tent. He noticed deer quarters hanging on the corner posts. Then he strolled slowly upriver, looking for arrowheads.

A yell interrupted his search. He saw Claude with two men in front of the tent. Stevens figured they were Fish and Game officers when he saw their green jackets and arm patches. Since all three were looking at him, he walked back to them.

When he approached, the taller, older officer requested Stevens's pistol. The officer opened the cylinder, removed the cartridges, and dropped them in Stevens's shirt pocket. Then he handed the gun back. Stevens introduced himself, and Claude said, "Maybe you know Mr. Pogue here. He was Chief of Police in Winnemucca for a while." Stevens learned that Pogue had left before he moved there himself. He noticed something was wrong with one of Pogue's eyes. The other officer wore a beard and glasses, just like Claude.

They had apparently been discussing the illegal deer meat because Pogue returned abruptly to that topic. He also brought up the question of illegal cats. He wanted to see Claude's Idaho trapping license, at that point. Stevens asked how far into Idaho the camp was located. Pogue said less than three miles. The two officers were standing directly in front of the tent, with their backs toward it. Claude was about six feet away facing Pogue. The tent was still tied shut — so no one could see inside. The drift of the discussion sounded to Stevens that they might be going to take Claude in, but Pogue wanted Claude to go into the tent and bring out the cats first.

Stevens turned towards the river. His whole trip would be a dead loss if Claude got arrested. Thinking about the long drive back, he eavesdropped intermittently on the argument, staring at the river. Claude said the tent was his private dwelling, and asked if the wardens had a search warrant. Pogue finally demanded, "Are you going into that tent and get those hides, or am I?" His tone was forceful and authoritative, a bit like a military drill instructor's. Then Stevens heard somebody say, "There's a raccoon hide in here, too." The heavyset officer emerged with the two cat hides and put them down in front of the right-hand tent flap. Pogue stood in front of the other flap. Claude was slightly to Pogue's right, still facing the tent opening.

"You know I'm going to tell the judge I got those cats in Nevada," Claude said. He didn't seem particularly upset about the turn of things, just concentrated and quiet. "We'll still cite you for possession," said Pogue. The other officer repeated the same statement. They've changed their minds, Stevens thought, with relief. He'd never really thought of Fish and Game officers making arrests. They just gave tickets.

Gazing at the river again, Stevens heard Claude ask, "Are you going to take me in?" Then he heard someone exclaim, "Oh, no!" Simultaneously he started at the sound of a shot and then a continuous roaring volley. He saw Claude, knees bent, firing from a crouched stance, his pistol in both hands. Pogue's right arm dropped as he stumbled, falling backwards, smoke coiling against his chest. Claude poured shots into the other officer and then again into Pogue until the pistol was empty. Pogue was on his back, the other man on his face. Deafened by the sound, his ears ringing, Stevens could not believe what had happened. Claude ran inside the tent. Sidling back along the tent wall, Stevens saw Pogue's head lift slightly, and then lie back down. Claude came out with a rifle, strode over to the man lying face down, and pushed the muzzle close to his head. Stevens turned away, unable to watch. There was one shot. Then a second. When he looked again, Claude was holding the rifle above Pogue.

NOT THREE MINUTES HAD TRANSPIRED SINCE JIM STEvens had joined the three men. He walked towards Claude. Fear and trembling disbelief struggled like two small animals in his throat. "Why, Claude? *Why?*"

"I swore I'd never be arrested again. They had handcuffs." Looking up at Stevens, he added: "I'm sorry I got you involved in this. I've got to get rid of these bodies, and you've got to help me."

Claude told him to cover the bodies with something in case a plane flew over. Then Claude went after one of the mules. Stevens noticed Pogue's handgun lying on the ground a few inches beyond his hand. There was blood on the side of his head, and in his ear. Walking over to the river and sitting down, Stevens tried to compose himself. "My God, I'm an eyewitness," he thought. "Maybe he'll decide to kill me, too." He took the shells out of his pocket and reloaded the pistol. Then he realized he couldn't shoot a friend. The best thing to do was just cooperate.

Before roping Pogue's body to the mule, Claude removed the departmental badges from the jacket and stuffed them in Pogue's small pack. He said he couldn't imagine anyone working that many years for the Fish and Game. Picking up the pistol, he said, "This gun's going into the ground with this guy." He stuck the gun in the pack, too. Claude told Stevens to bring everything he'd brought down from the Blazer and follow him to the rim. Claude left with Pogue's body on the mule.

Stevens met Claude coming back down just below the same steep drop near the top of the trail. Leaving his load there, he returned with Claude to help with the other officer's body. The whole front of the big man's body was soaked with blood. It almost made him sick. Claude told him, if he was going to throw up, to go off into the brush and do it. He noticed the officer's jacket was partly zipped when they rolled him over. Underneath the jacket was a shoulder holster with a sidearm still in it. Claude mentioned that up on the rim the officers had checked the .22 pistol he was carrying in his own shoulder. They hadn't asked for the .357 on his belt. "I would of took 'em on the rim," he said, "but they would have killed me up there." Later, he told Stevens, "I don't know how you feel about it, but I think it was justifiable homicide. They had no business in my camp." Stevens did not know exactly what Claude meant by justifiable homicide.

The other officer's body shifted and pulled the mule over on its back two hundred yards up the trail. Every time they tried to reload the body, the mule stepped aside. At one point, Claude said the only way to get the guy to the top was to quarter him. Stevens said he couldn't do that, and Claude said he couldn't either. Claude finally decided to put the body in the river. They tried dragging the body behind the mule, first by the feet, and next, by a rope around the chest. The process of dragging the officer through brush and over rocks eventually tore off all his clothing.

Claude told Stevens to smooth out the drag marks with his hands and haul the rest of the gear up to the rim. He would dump the body in the river and burn brush over the bloody ground in front of the tent. Stevens took all of the officers'

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COURTESY THE HUMBOLDT SUN, WINNEMUCCA

COURTESY ADA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

COURTESY JODI RUPE

(Clockwise, beginning at top) ***In the autumn of 1982 Nevada State Investigator Chuck Rikalop, Humboldt County Sheriff Frank Weston, and the latter's deputy, Stan Rorex, examine remnants of clothing at the northern Nevada site where Claude Dallas left Bill Pogue's body. Idaho Fish and Game officers Bill Pogue and Conley Elms were killed by Dallas at his camp in southwestern Idaho. A few days after Dallas's escape from prison on March 30, 1986, lawmen use a bloodhound in their search for Dallas just north of Paradise Hill, Nevada.***

effects, Claude's rifles and shotgun, the two bobcat hides, and the orange tarp, all on Pogue's small pack, and started for the rim. He dropped the tarp when a pack strap broke. Later, when Claude overtook him, he noticed Claude had picked it up. Claude told him to sit down and take it easy for a few minutes. He didn't want Jim to have a heart attack or anything. Then he said: "This is murder one for me. I didn't weight the body. They're bound to find it in the morning." When Stevens next saw Claude, he was coming back down the trail drinking a 7-Up.

Claude passed him with one more load before Stevens finally struggled to the Blazer. It was almost dark. The tailgate was down, and Pogue's body was on the ground underneath it. The tools and other equipment he kept behind the backseat were piled on the seat. He helped Claude wrap the body in the orange tarp and slide him in behind the seat. Pogue's feet protruded out the back window. Claude retrieved a can of kerosene stashed in the rimrocks and built a fire over the spot where Pogue had lain. Stevens thought, this is foolish. There's blood on the rocks clear to the river. He can't get rid of it all. Climbing in the truck, Claude told him he wanted to take Pogue's body to George Nielsen's bar in Paradise Hill. Stevens couldn't figure out why they would haul one body out and leave the other behind in the shallow river. It was just like the alibi Claude concocted for him on the drive back. It didn't make much sense.

When they reached Nielsen's, Dallas announced he'd "dusted two Fish and Game" and needed George's pickup to "cache" the body someplace. He gave Stevens instructions about cleaning bloodstains off himself and the Blazer. Then he shook Stevens's hand and said: "I probably won't see you again. If you see my parents, would you tell them I love them?" Then he drove into the night with Bill Pogue's body and a pick and shovel.

Sometime before dawn on January 6, George Nielsen let Claude Dallas out of his pickup on Sand Pass Road, about fifteen miles south of Paradise Hill. Dallas had showered, eaten a big meal, and packed his gear. He carried a backpack, a rifle, a .357 pistol and $100 of Nielsen's money. On the ride out, he told Nielsen: "I did a sloppy job, but they deserved it. They had it coming."

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In 1968 CLAUDE DALLAS WAS GRADUATED FROM HIGH school in Mount Gilead, Ohio. His classmates were going to Vietnam in droves, but young Claude entertained another dream. He wanted to see the Rocky Mountains, Canada, and Alaska, "the world," as he told Constance Wilson and her son Hoyt, owner and foreman of the huge Alvord Ranch on the east slope of Steens Mountain in southeastern Oregon. Claude turned up there looking for work that same spring. Though thoroughly green, the teenager stuck to his assigned chores and soon proved himself to be one of the hardest working hands the Wilsons had ever hired. For almost two years, he worked at learning the necessary skills of "buckarooing" at the Alvord. Then one day he told the Wilsons his Ohio draft board was looking for him. He bought two horses from them and rode off.

By 1970 Dallas had drifted into Paradise Valley, a forty-mile groove in the basin and range country of northern Nevada. He worked various spreads for the next few years. Dallas soon acquired a reputation for being contemptuous of Nevada's game laws. Friends and acquaintances found that he believed he had the right to kill animals out of season without regard for game laws. Whenever anyone confronted him with questions about his poaching, he insisted that game laws didn't apply to "subsistence hunters" like himself.

An Ohio grand jury indicted Claude Dallas for failure to report for induction in July of 1973. FBI agents started on his trail and by late fall had traced him to a cow camp in Elko County. Three Nevada agents caught him taking a nap in the camp's bunkhouse one afternoon and arrested him. His attorney for the Ohio trial found Dallas an atypical draft evader. He wasn't the usual protestor who didn't want to be in the Army or be sent to Vietnam. He just believed nobody had the right to tell him what to do. Claude's attorney found a loophole in the way the Ohio draft board had handled the notification process. The federal government dropped the charges one day before the trial.

The Claude Dallas who came back to Nevada in early 1974 seemed changed, though. He claimed that the FBI agents "got the drop" on him when he was arrested, that he'd been roughed up and humiliated while in custody. That spring he arrived at the Mann ranch to work off the $900 he'd borrowed from the Wilsons to pay his legal fees. Ranch hands noticed a new preoccupation with guns, quick-draw techniques, and military and police tactics. "Claude carries a gun even when he's driving a tractor or a truck," said one. "And, oh, I wouldn't want him shooting at me." Later in the summer he talked some about his arrest. He seemed almost paranoid about authority and the government.

About 1975 Dallas began trapping fur as a serious replacement for ranch work. Mostly, he ran lines in the hills and mountain ranges surrounding Paradise Valley, the Bloody Runs, the Santa Rosas, the Osgoods. It wasn't long before he ran afoul of the Nevada Fish and Game. Agent Dale Elliot picked up his traps and cited him for baiting them with wild mustang hide in 1976. Word also got around that Dallas had a business arrangement with George Nielsen, the Paradise Hill bar owner. (By this time, Dallas was settled permanently in a trailer behind Nielsen's bar.) Nielsen was soon bragging about a couple of mountain lion pelts he had for sale. Fish and Game agents discovered that both were illegally taken by trapping and confiscated the pelts. In the Bloody Runs, warden Gene Weller was playing cat and mouse with an elusive trapper wearing a distinctive hat. The man's traps were baited and lacked raptor spacers and identifying tags. Just about a perfect score on violations. Finally, in 1978 Weller confiscated a loaded rifle and pistol in the man's parked truck. Claude Dallas turned up to claim the guns, but he denied the trapping violations.

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AT NOON ON JANUARY 6, JIM STEVENS AND GEORGE and Liz Nielsen drove to the Humboldt County Sheriff's Office in Winnemucca. They told their story to Sheriff Frank Weston in the presence of their lawyer. Within hours, the Sheriff of Idaho's Owyhee County, Tim Nettleton, was in on the case. FBI agents from Boise and Winnemucca came in because interstate flight was involved. Over the next two days, volunteers and Idaho Fish and Game staff flooded into Paradise Valley to search for Pogue's body. The week crawled on, and the facts piled up, but it became clear that neither Bill Pogue's remains nor Claude Dallas would be easily found.

In the wake of the crime, public opinion swung a wide gamut. Dallas's friends were quick to support him — people like the Wilsons on the Alvord Ranch and Irene and Walt Fischer, who'd worked with Claude when he first started on Nevada's Circle A, and old Frank Gavica, who'd known him since he first staked out a stool in Nielsen's bar in Paradise Valley. Most of them thought either the account couldn't be true or else the wardens must have done something wrong and provoked Claude some way. In general, Nevadans sided with Dallas, and Idahoans with Pogue and Elms.

A certain kind of mythology began to grow around the case. In Nevada bars, the talk gave Bill Pogue a reputation for being overly aggressive about law enforcement, for wearing way "too much badge," for even going after Claude on a personal vendetta. The Paradise Hill bar was a particularly virulent source of revised facts on the case. Journalists seized on the "mountain man" label, exploiting its aura of the historical West. The *Idaho Statesman* ran opinions from survivalists and outdoorsmen detailing the ease with which a man of Dallas's reputed skills could live off the land as long as he pleased. Offhand remarks from sheriffs Weston and Nettleton contributed to the same larger-than-life image.

But in his penetrating and judicious book on Dallas, *Give A Boy a Gun*, Jack Olsen discovered that a few of Dallas's friends saw a more insidious facet to this mythology. Nevada State Trooper Duane Michelson, Dallas's shooting range acquaintance, observed, "Claude's acting out something he read in a book." When Sheriff Weston remarked that bringing Pogue's body out "doesn't compute," Gene Weller, a Sunday School teacher who worked for the Nevada Fish and Game, disagreed. "He brought it back to show George Nielsen, the same way he used to bring back poached deer and lions." Weller had been dealing with violations by Claude Dallas for over three years.

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On Sunday, April 18, 1982, the mythology surrounding Claude Dallas seemed to settle to earth. A Huey helicopter dropped an FBI SWAT team outside of Craig Carver's trailer house in Paradise Hill one-half hour before dark. The team was backed up by additional SWAT units as well as by forces from the Nevada State Police and Weston's and Nettleton's offices. Dallas dived through one of the trailer's windows when the circling FBI helicopter identified its purpose. He ran to a

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Claude Dallas posed with the head of a mountain sheep at a time when the most serious charge against him was violation of game laws rather than murder.

pickup in the trailer yard, and spun for the driveway. Seeing it blocked by FBI forces, he wheeled around the trailer and broke through Carver's barbed wire fence onto the greasewood flat sloping down to the Little Humboldt River a mile away. Backup forces moved in to cut him off. An observation plane and the Huey both reported taking gunfire from the truck. Almost to the river, the truck stopped, tangled in a fence. Forces opened fire from two sides, but Dallas managed to slip unobserved from the truck in the dust and gunfire. He crawled about a hundred yards through the brush and hid. The helicopter re-deposited a SWAT unit within two hundred yards of the truck, and they moved to encircle it as night was falling. Then, just when it appeared the SWAT team might overshoot his hiding place, Dallas called out to a nearby officer and surrendered. He had a superficial wound in his right ankle. His capture took twenty-two minutes.

A Nevada resident and Dallas associate later collected the $20,500 reward for Dallas's apprehension. Dallas was promptly extradited by Idaho authorities. After two nights in Sheriff Nettleton's jail, he was moved to more secure facilities in Caldwell. Trial was set for September 15.

CLAYTON ANDERSEN, THE OWYHEE COUNTY PROSECUTOR, had misgivings as soon as he saw Claude Dallas. Claude just didn't look like a killer. Andersen's second major setback came when the jury venire was drawn. He'd hoped for a largely male jury with a solid inclination towards law and order. Instead, he drew ten women and two men. The stage was set to maximize the romantic and maternal appeal of the defendant. Then Michael Donnelly and William Mauk, the defense attorneys, succeeded in making the crime's only eyewitness appear confused. The defense also managed to assassinate the character of Bill Pogue. And they convinced the judge to disallow (as more prejudicial than relevant) the two books found in Dallas's trailer after the crime, *No Second Place Winner* and *Kill or Be Killed*. The first work dealt with gunfighting technique and the second, with training police officers. Then the pathologists disagreed about whether or not Elms had been shot in the back.

When Dallas took the stand, he calmly contradicted or undermined Stevens's testimony on every key point. He stated that Pogue was primed for a fight from the first and that Pogue had said, "You can go easy or you can go hard." Dallas told the jury he interpreted "going hard" to mean "only one way — that's dead." Claude claimed Pogue drew his gun when he'd told him he didn't want to be taken in, and he only reacted in self-defense. He indicated Elms also drew his gun after he'd shot Pogue. He said he held his gun in one hand and did not assume a crouched, professional stance while firing at the officers. He admitted he had not shown Pogue's pistol to Stevens or used the term "self-defense" in the immediate aftermath of the crime. But he said that Jim Stevens had "run away" right afterward and when he returned, he was just "babbling." In the end, Dallas even gave up the exact location of Bill Pogue's body, although he couldn't recall "within four or five miles" where he'd buried Pogue's gun and both of his own.

Throughout the trial, the personal appeal of Dallas seemed to draw courtroom spectators to his side, particularly the women present. One group of women, who habitually sat together in the courtroom, displayed such obvious support for the defendant that they were known as Dallas's cheerleaders.

To Andersen, it was consequently not much of a surprise when after the longest trial in Idaho history (and seven days of jury deliberation), the verdict was Voluntary Manslaughter instead of First or Second Degree Murder. Andersen had argued for a mistrial after juror Mrs. Jimmie Hurley had been discharged and replaced with Joyce Blanksma on the sixth day of deliberations. (Hurley knew about Dallas's draft-evasion arrest and was accused by other jurors of using "extraneous information," even though documents about the arrest were included in the materials given to the jury. Hurley was the only serious remaining holdout for a murder conviction.) What was a surprise, however, was how close the verdict really came to Justifiable Homicide. Explained jury foreman Milo Moore: "We just figured Pogue drew his gun and Dallas was a better marksman, that he was put in the position of self-defense. Dallas was a faster draw. He won out." But Dallas had used excessive force by shooting both men in the head, continued Moore. If he hadn't done that, the jury would have let him off.

Law enforcement authorities, the victims' families, and the general Idaho public were appalled. Voluntary Manslaughter in Idaho law is defined as "the unlawful killing of a human being, without malice — upon a sudden quarrel or heat of passion." Andersen stated bluntly that he thought Dallas had lied on the witness stand. "The Claude Dallas who was in the courtroom and the Claude Dallas at the shooting are two different individuals. I think the jurors believed who they saw and heard on the witness stand. This is a verdict the jury will have to live with." The officers' widows saw the courts as failing the very men who enforced the law. Newspaper and television polls in the Boise-Caldwell area revealed there were two people for every one who felt that justice had miscarried.

* * * * * * *

Third District Judge Edward J. Lodge spoke for almost an hour.

He flatly stated he did not believe self-defense was an issue that day in Bull Basin. He noted Dallas had been warned by Ed Carlin that his camp might be checked, and that he had indicated he would be ready. He pointed out that Dallas knew the officers thought they had already disarmed him on the rim. "It is contrary to common sense to believe that peace officers of Mr. Pogue's and Mr. Elms's experience would even attempt to shoot anyone over a misdemeanor in the presence of not only another officer, but a third person." Describing Dallas's expertise with firearms, he concluded that Dallas drew his gun because he "did not want to be taken in" and shot Pogue "before he ever drew a gun." He told Dallas, "You did that and you could do that because of the fact they did not know you were armed." Even worse, in light of the same expertise, Dallas did not give Elms a chance either to drop his hand or

drop his gun — if he ever drew his gun. The judge found this act "totally inexcusable" and saw no tenable reason that Dallas would need to kill Elms to secure his own life.

Judge Lodge reasoned that Stevens, as Dallas's friend, would have jumped at any possibility to construe the events as self-defense. "The last thing he would do is try to make things worse for you." Consequently, Lodge could not "imagine" Stevens concocting the statements about Dallas's never being arrested again, the gun going into the ground with the body, and the crime being murder one. Dallas's remark "I would have took 'em on the rim," moreover, came very close to indicating "premeditation."

Lodge stated that Stevens had described Dallas "as being still very collected and quiet and basically calm, particularly considering the incident that had just transpired." His "thought processes were very orderly, well organized." Dallas conceived of what needed to be done immediately after the crime and gave Stevens particular instructions. These acts were "not indicative of a person who is out of his mind." "Practically all of those acts at the scene at that time, particularly going and getting the .22 and coming back out, were offensive, not defensive acts."

"We have had testimony concerning your good character," the judge continued, "and what type of person you are, but there is some kind of resentment or antigovernment philosophy in your thinking." He returned repeatedly to the puzzle of Dallas's remorselessness towards the victims and their families. He reviewed the treatment of both Elms's and Pogue's bodies. These he described as "atrocious" actions, but worse than that was the long refusal to reveal the whereabouts of Pogue's body. "Once you were free . . . there was ample time for you to have let somebody know the general location of that body for the sake of the family. That has been a puzzle to me all through this trial. I have never been able to figure it out, knowing you the way you have been described."

The sentence was thirty years.

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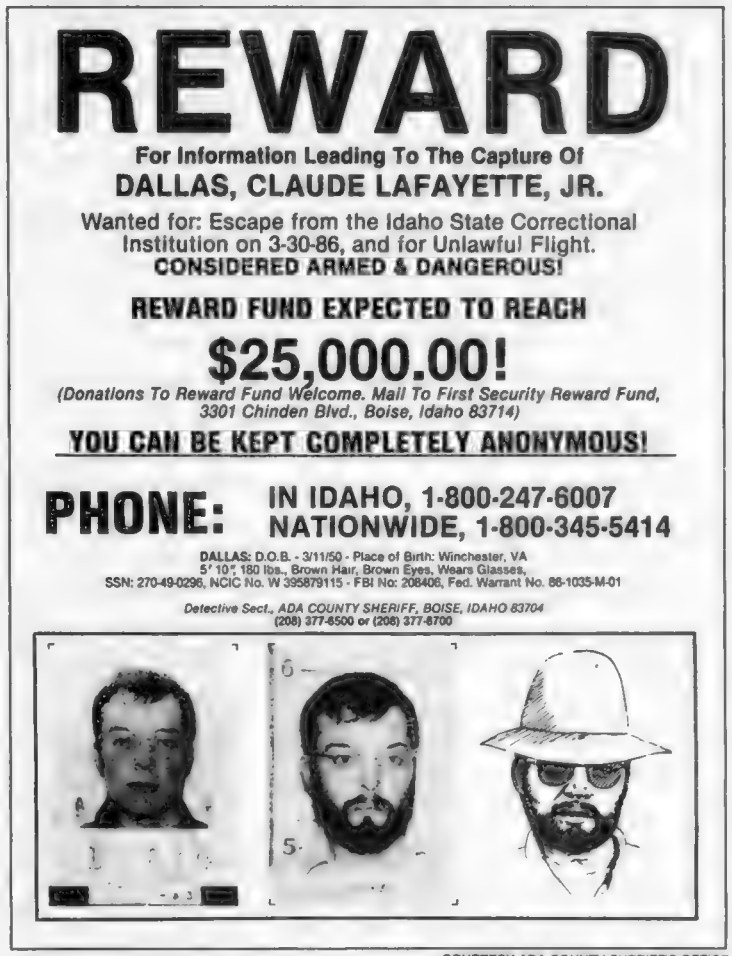
Hugh Nichols *is Dean of Arts and Sciences at Lewis Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho. He has just finished editing an anthology of short fiction from the Northwest, to be published in 1987.*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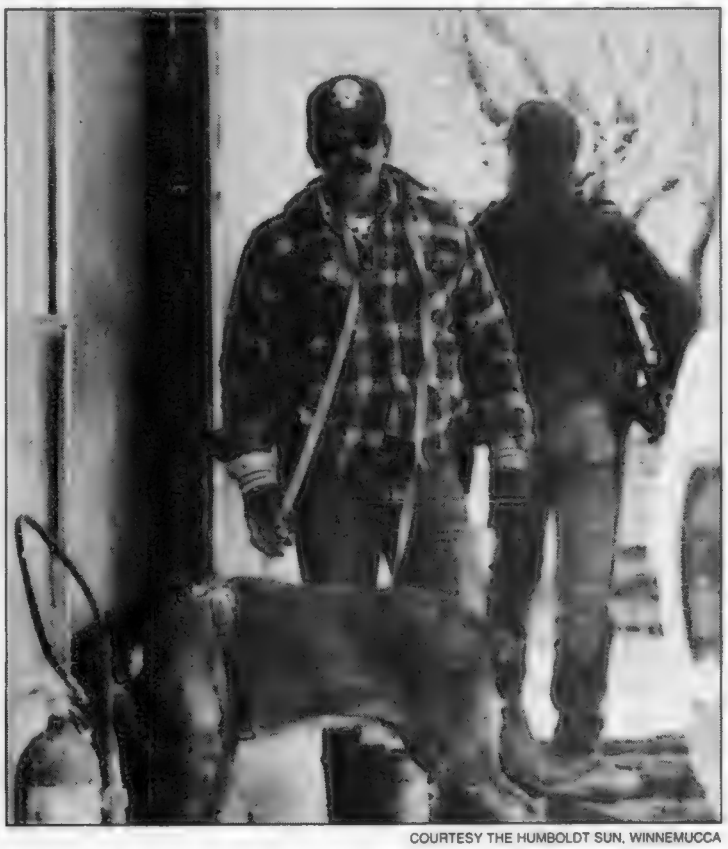

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AUDUBON'S WESTERN MAMMALS

Masterworks by a master naturalist and artist

by Paul Schullery

As with many great historical figures, the life of artist-naturalist John James Audubon has been reconsidered many times. Audubon's historical reputation was at first based upon his own elaborate self-promotion and the loving image-polishing of his family and friends. Eventually, as professional historians got hold of the widely scattered records of his life, a new evaluation emerged. Of course no one (at least no one I've ever heard of) could have been as saintly as Audubon was portrayed by his relatives, but many admirers of his work were dismayed to discover just how *un*saintly he was. The tales of his tremendous vanity, his joyful slaughter of hundreds of birds for the sake of art and sport, and his shocking neglect of his family are a disappointing counterbalance to the glory of his artistic achievement. But whatever his personal limitations, Audubon cannot be censured on the one point that matters several generations later: he was such a superb interpreter of the natural world that he deserves his role as a symbol for modern nature lovers everywhere.

Audubon was born in the West Indies in 1785, an event he frequently tried to make considerably more romantic than it was. Many fresh, inquiring biographical studies exist, making it unnecessary to trace his upbringing and artistic development here. To appreciate what went into the western portraits shown on these pages, we need only a little background on that work.

For much of his adult life, Audubon wanted to go west. In late 1820 he expressed his "wish to travel as far at Least as the Osage Nations on the Arkansas as also along the Whole of our Frontiers." He repeated his expressions of enthusiasm for an expedition now and then over the next two decades. In 1836 he told his friend and fellow naturalist John Bachman that he hoped to travel to "the broad Prairies—I love the prairies! and then on to the Rocky Mountains." But not until 1843, when the great artist was in his late fifties, did he actually realize his ambition and make a trip up the Missouri as far as the Yellowstone River. The trip was justified by the project on which Audubon was then working, the famous *Viviparous Quadrupeds of North America*. Indeed, without that project,

CAPTIONS BY THE AUTHOR

COURTESY AMON CARTER MUSEUM, FORT WORTH

The Jaguar, *J. J. Audubon*
Hand-colored lithograph, 22" x 28", 1846

In his classic* Wildlife of Mexico *(1959), the late A. Starker Leopold wrote that "around the camp fires of Mexico there is no animal more talked about, more romanticized and glamorized, than* el tigre.*" Not that long ago it got similar attention around the campfires of southern California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texas, and even Louisiana. In 1845 John Woodhouse Audubon was told in San Antonio, Texas, that jaguar still preyed upon wild horses and deer nearby. Some observers have claimed the animal ranged as far east as the Appalachians. Most naturalists agree that when the jaguar appears in the United States (the Big Bend country and the southern end of the Arizona–New Mexico border are the most likely places), it is apt to be a wandering male that has drifted far from its usual haunts. At its largest, the jaguar may weigh 220 pounds, a rare and spectacular predator that has not been so dangerous to humans as Audubon and his sons reported it to be.

COURTESY AMON CARTER MUSEUM, FORT WORTH

American Beaver, *J. J. Audubon*
Hand-colored lithograph, 21 3/16" x 27½", 1844

The beaver has mystified us with its architecture, drawn us to explore huge portions of the West while seeking its pelt, and charmed us with its industry. Early naturalists embellished its dam-building into an animal civilization, with hundreds of beavers working on elegant dwellings and giant waterworks. Its pelt, needed for fashionable hats as early as the 1630s, had a great deal to do with the initial European visits to many watersheds, East and West. The beaver's energy at its work—we are impressed by the person who is "busy as a beaver"—has become a part of practically everyone's nature lore. Because of the continued value of beaver pelts and the animal's frequent nuisance status in streams that managers would rather have flow freely, the beaver has little opportunity to be restored to former abundance. But it is a popular animal, a public favorite in many places, and is in no danger of widespread elimination either.

Audubon very likely would never have gone west at all.

Ironically, this achievement, which has been called "the outstanding work on American Mammals in the 19th century," was almost an afterthought in a career that had kept Audubon from making the trip west long before. Both the *Quadrupeds* and the artist's brief expedition up the Missouri were squeezed in at the end of a career that had taken more of Audubon's physical and financial resources than he could fairly afford.

That career's enduring masterpiece is *The Birds of America*. It consists of 435 plates of the birds (sold in groups of five to subscribers) and the massive five-volume *Ornithological Biography*. The plates appeared irregularly over the course of a decade or so, the last being published in June of 1838; the *Biography*, which he worked on simultaneously, was finished a year later. This monumental work, on which Audubon, in his own words, "laboured like a cart Horse for . . . thirty years," occupied the most productive years of his life and gave him his immortality. The original "Double Elephant Folio" of the *Birds* had been a constant drain on the family's resources for many years, but a smaller, more commercially successful edition quickly appeared. This freed Audubon at last from dread of bankruptcy, permitted him to buy a comfortable farm on the Hudson just north of New York City, and gave him the leisure to proceed on the *Quadrupeds*.

In 1839 Audubon announced the new project and persuaded the Reverend John Bachman of Charleston, South Carolina, to participate as author of the scientific descriptions and as informal general advisor on many editorial matters. Much more than the *Birds*, the *Quadrupeds* was a group project. Besides Bachman, Audubon relied heavily on his two sons, John Woodhouse and Victor Gifford. John Woodhouse painted many of the portraits, probably about half of them; Victor painted many of the backgrounds and handled an endless array of practical details, especially in the business end of the production. Sympathetic modern historians have also pointed out that various other family members, such as John's wife Lucy and Bachman's wife Maria, labored for years in many capacities for their husbands' dream.

The three volumes of plates of the "Imperial Edition" of *Quadrupeds* were published between 1845 and 1848, and the three accompanying volumes of text appeared between 1846 and 1854. At the end of the project, the group published a "supplement" that contained additional text and five plates of eight more species, bringing the total number of plates to 155.

The mammals were a difficult challenge, even for such a formidable team as this one. Many of the animals were poorly understood or had never before been described. Specimens were hard to find, often requiring trips to European collections or exasperating delays while searches were conducted. Audubon depended on a sprawling network of acquaintances around the country to send him (in "good Yankee rum" for preservation) scores of smaller mammals for study and copying. The Audubon farm was like a zoo, roamed by dozens of live animals as large as elk (then still found in parts of the east). Even this system of gathering the necessary materials proved inadequate, and the aging naturalist enthusiastically made

COURTESY AMON CARTER MUSEUM, FORT WORTH

Rocky Mountain Goat, ***J. W. Audubon***
Hand-colored lithograph, 21⅞" x 27 15/16", 1847

The goat is the least-seen and least-studied of the Western big game animals. Douglas Chadwick's fascinating book* A Beast the Color of Winter *(1983) remains the only easily available popularly written account of the goat, though the animal is either native to or introduced in nine Western states and is widely present in western Canada and southeast Alaska. The goat lives in the least accessible mountain country. My own glimpses of them, as white dots moving slowly across steep cliff faces, are probably typical of the way most of us can expect to see this extraordinarily agile animal. For a variety of ecological reasons, mountain goats are unusually susceptible to hunting pressure and require special care from managers. Fortunately, much of their range has not been found useful for other activity, and there is hope that we can maintain suitable habitat and harvest control to enable the goats to survive. At least, thanks to Chadwick and several other cliff-dwelling biologists, we have the information to show us how.

COURTESY AMON CARTER MUSEUM, FORT WORTH

Prong-Horned Antelope, ***J. J. Audubon***
Hand-colored lithograph, 21 15/16" x 27 15/16", 1845

Able to sprint at sixty miles per hour ("they fleet by the hunter like flashes or meteors," wrote Audubon), with large, incredibly powerful eyes, the pronghorn is superbly adapted to its prairie life. It is also one of the great success stories of North American game conservation. There may have been as many as forty million pronghorn here in the year 1500, but by 1925 only 25,000 were left. Better management of both hunting and habitat brought rapid recovery, so that by the 1970s there were around 400,000 and the sight of pronghorn ghosting over a flat and the warning flash of the bright rump-patch enlivened many a long drive on lonely Western roads. Most naturalists still insist that the pronghorn is not a true antelope, but most of us still happily refer to it as such.

plans to go west.

In 1843, having been unable to persuade the federal government to fund his expedition, Audubon and a few assistants hitched a ride up the Missouri with Pierre Chouteau and his American Fur Company party. The artist left New York on March 11 and was back by November 5, having spent most of that time either ascending the Missouri from St. Louis to Fort Union at the mouth of the Yellowstone or doing his work in the neighborhood of Fort Union. By modern standards this seems a great deal of time for gathering the necessary information, but the trip was in no way sufficient. It did not cover the Rocky Mountains adequately, to say nothing of the country to the west, which Audubon had dreamed of visiting as well.

STILL, THIS TRIP WAS AN ARDUOUS AND PRODUCtive adventure for Audubon, and it did yield much in material for the book. It also took its toll. Though Audubon pronounced himself "fat as a Grisly Bear in good season" on his return, his strenuous exploring was catching up with him. As Victor Cahalane put it, in a 1967 edition of the mammals book, "although his sight was still exceptionally keen, he looked and felt 10 years older than his actual age of 58."

The result of this slowing down was that only about half of the animal portraits in the *Quadrupeds* are attributed to John James Audubon. He died in 1851, leaving his son John Woodhouse to finish the work. The son is believed to have done at least 72 of the original 150 portraits, plus all of the five plates in the supplement, but Cahalane and other authorities have wondered if the number done by the son might be even higher.

The image we enjoy of Audubon—that of the rugged naturalist deep in the wilderness with his paints and brushes, crouching in the brush while he produces a finished portrait of a nearby deer—is hardly realistic. Few, if any, artists work that way, and Audubon rarely made his final paintings from life. More often his animal portraits were a combination of his accumulated knowledge, based on field sketches, notes, and specimens. He seemed happiest when he had many specimens of a single species to work with. Though he did keep many live animals at the farm and was an energetic observer of creatures in their wild habitat, Audubon was apparently most comfortable with rigging a dead specimen in a certain position when it came time for making the final portrait. This is not to belittle him; in good part because of his lifelong acquaintance with animals in the wild, he was able to portray dead ones in such an animate manner.

The portraits produced by the Audubons, and the text produced by them in cooperation with Bachman, remained the foremost work on the subject through much of the 1800s. Scientists added a great amount of detail to that reported in the *Quadrupeds*, but the work remained a durable standard. Not surprisingly, considering the primitive state of animal study and taxonomy before the Civil War, many of the species designations offered by Bachman have been reconsidered. Fewer than 120 of the 147 "species" listed in the *Quadrupeds* are still recognized. Most of the eliminated ones were small

COURTESY AMON CARTER MUSEUM, FORT WORTH

Grizzly Bear, ***J. W. Audubon***
Hand-colored lithograph, 21⅞" x 27⅞", 1848

I am currently at work on my third book about bears, and am still regularly surprised and even amazed at their ability to excite and confuse us. Of all the large Western mammals, none has been as controversial in the past quarter century as the grizzly. Many people see the struggle to preserve a few small grizzly populations —in Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks and a few wilderness areas in Montana and Idaho —as an important part of the greater struggle to preserve some "real" West that the bear has come to symbolize. Other people would just as soon see the grizzly, which once roamed practically all of the West, disappear once and for all. We modern Americans are ill at ease admiring an animal we must also fear. That ambivalence, as it is translated into the complex machine known as grizzly bear management, has had a great deal to do with the bear's precarious status over much of its remaining range. Lukewarm public interest in protecting the bear could be as fatal to the animal as no interest at all.

COURTESY AMON CARTER MUSEUM, FORT WORTH

Black Footed Ferret, ***J. W. Audubon***
Hand-colored lithograph, 21⅞" x 27⅞", 1846

We owe the first description of the black-footed ferret to Audubon and Bachman. In fact, the pelt they acquired was the only-known specimen for many years, and when it was inadvertently lost some years after their description appeared, some naturalists suspected that the two had made up the animal. The black-footed ferret depends almost exclusively upon prairie dogs for prey, and the destruction of prairie dogs during the settlement of the West meant the near-total demise of the ferret as well. In 1981, however, this ferret went from lost cause to* cause célèbre *when researchers located a small population near Meeteetse, Wyoming. Research since then on that endangered group has taught us more about ferrets than had been learned in the previous 130 years. No animal in the West today is the cause of more breath-holding among wildlife enthusiasts, as we watch, through the eyes of an interagency study team, the comings and goings of these last-known survivors of a remarkable, handsome species. Enormous skill, considerable expense, and more than a little luck will be required to bring it back from the edge.

mammals that are now understood to be merely regional variations rather than true species.

Most people stumble upon the *Quadrupeds* long after they are aware of the *Birds*. The Audubons' work on mammals has never had the fame or respect given to the *Birds*. There are probably many reasons for this. For one thing, the study and painting of birds was in great fashion at that time. For another, Audubon's powers were at their peak when he produced the bird book, while the *Quadrupeds* was produced by a declining master with the help of a gifted but not brilliant son.

Some of the reasons may have been less tangible. Audubon's work on birds caught people's imagination; he was lionized in both Old World and New as a pioneering and hardy genius. The appearance of the bird folios and texts over many years kept him steadily in the public eye, and his travels were reported regularly during that time. There was something irresistibly romantic about Audubon, both as artist and adventurer, something that he capitalized on at every opportunity. Of course fame of that kind depends on more than the production of great art, and the *Quadrupeds* may have suffered to some extent from a fickle public's waning interest in a celebrity.

All in all, probably the most important reason that the *Quadrupeds* did not receive the historical acclaim the *Birds* did is the lessening of the artist's powers. Whether because of his age or simply because he lacked understanding, Audubon did not do mammals so well as he did birds. Though many casual observers notice that Audubon's birds do not look quite like the living specimens, the discrepancy is appreciably greater regarding the mammals. The bison's horns and the black-tailed deer's antlers seem too delicate; the bull moose's body is too short; the bull elk has a horse's neck; the grizzly bear has a peculiar fold of fur hanging over its lower jaw. One or two of these oddities would not be noticed, given the enormous variations in proportion and character in any animal species, but so many are troublesome. There is something almost cartoon-like about the faces of some of the mammals, and the Western ones are often least acceptable, probably because they were the ones least studied by the artist. At their best they are sufficient. At their worst they are gentle caricatures, stiff to the point of looking like portraits of poorly stuffed trophies—which, in a sense, some of them were.

However, the limitations of the mammals do not in the least detract from their wonder for a modern audience. The production of the *Quadrupeds* was accomplished under conditions that would stop most modern artists and naturalists cold. The energy, inventiveness, and perseverance required to produce this work were phenomenal, and it stands as a cornerstone upon which present knowledge was constructed. Audubon's attention to the Western mammals, at a time when pitifully little was known of them, is a milestone not only of Western natural history but of Western art and culture as well.

Paul Schullery'*s most recent books are* Theodore Roosevelt: Wilderness Writings *and a revised edition of his work* The Bears of Yellowstone.

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THE GREAT

ON JANUARY 25, 1934, THE NOTORIOUS JOHN DILlinger was captured in Tucson—stealing the headlines from Arizona's new governor, Benjamin B. Moeur. The Governor wanted the top story. He had just threatened military action against both California and the federal government to prevent construction of Parker Dam on the Colorado River. In the opinion of Arizona, Parker Dam would violate its territorial rights and steal, in a manner not much different from John Dillinger's, both its water supply and its water power. The ensuing conflict, "the most famous inland expedition since Sherman's march to the sea," is now remembered as the Great Colorado River War of 1934.

Arizona was neither impulsive nor without reason in threatening the war. By 1934 the whole state believed that nefarious California lobbyists and blasé federal officials had sold it down the river. California farmers had harvested $71.6 million of federal funds to construct the All-American Canal system. And although Boulder Dam (now called Hoover Dam) was, in theory, for both Arizona and California, in 1934 it seemed to Arizona a $175 million gift to light up southern California cities and control floods on California farmland. To add to Arizona's resentment, the Public Works Administration floated a $13 million loan to California's Metropolitan Water District to build Parker Dam, the keystone in California's grand plan to transport water from the Colorado to burgeoning southcoast cities. The Bureau of Reclamation agreed to survey, plan, and direct construction for California.

These were not small-scale projects. The Imperial Valley, fed by the All-American Canal, became the planet's largest irrigation district—900,000 acres. In 1935 Boulder Dam impounded the planet's largest storage reservoir, Lake Mead. When completed, Parker Dam fed the Colorado Aqueduct, the planet's longest and largest (running 242 miles to the Los Angeles area, carrying one billion gallons of waterflow per day) and tied into the planet's most extensive distribution network of domestic supply pipes—over 430 miles. (Rome's complete aqueduct system totaled 250 miles and delivered five percent the volume now delivered by the Colorado Aqueduct.)

These enormous projects, of great benefit to California, only intensified Arizona's jitters. The other six Colorado Basin States (Wyoming, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, Colorado, and California) had declared Congressional war on Arizona. They blocked all Congressional support for Arizona's own pet irrigation project near Yuma. In 1922 they had agreed to the Colorado River Compact, divvying up the river's water against Arizona's strong opposition. The compact allo-

COLORADO RIVER WAR

On the order of Governor Moeur, Arizona National Guardsmen gathered in a truck convoy in Phoenix during November 1934. They were off to Parker to protect the state of Arizona against the nefarious invasion by California and the federal government, whose plans for constructing Parker Dam across the Colorado River were fiercely opposed by Arizonans.

COURTESY ARIZONA NATIONAL GUARD MUSEUM

Enroute to Parker Dam - 1934

cated Arizona one million acre-feet less than it thought fair.

"It's a showdown this time," warned Governor Moeur in 1934. "We are going to get something or we aren't. And, if we can't expect anything, we want to know it before Parker Dam is advanced."

California and the federal government considered the Governor's sabre-rattling to be, at best, high-falutin' ol' Western rhetoric and, at worst, the infantile outpourings of a slightly berserk politician. The Governor's concerns went completely unacknowledged. In March 1934 California workers launched barges into the Colorado at the rocky narrows just south of its confluence with the Bill Williams River. They crossed the midstream thread, securing the barges with cables and anchoring them to both California and Arizona shores. They began diamond drilling and taking soil samples on Arizona territory to determine the required depth to the dam's key. (Parker Dam became the deepest dam on the planet, bottoming out at 240 feet below ground level.)

GOVERNOR MOEUR GOT WORD OF THIS TRESPASS. ON March 5, he sent Major Franklin Ivan Pomeroy, 158th Infantry Regiment, Arizona National Guard, and Harry Hotchkiss, the Governor's personal secretary, "to protect the rights of the State and report at once any encroachment on the Arizona side of the river." This two-man spearhead of Arizona's expeditionary forces, traveling by station wagon, rolled into Parker, a dusty town of miners, cowboys, after-hours construction workers, and occasional Mohave and Chemehuevi Indians.

To initiate reconnaissance, the spearhead had to journey eighteen additional miles from Parker to the potential war zone. There were two routes: the well-oiled road on the California side (in "enemy territory") or a treacherous track crisscrossing a sandy, dry wash on the Arizona side. Major Pomeroy cringed at either choice. Good fortune saved him. Parker was the home of Nellie T. Bush. A remarkable woman, she was Parker's first city attorney, justice of the peace for six years, and state representative from 1920 to 1932 when she was elected state senator. But, best of all, she was Arizona's first licensed riverboat pilot. She and her husband ferried cars across the Colorado—one at a time—from Parker, Arizona, to Earp, California. Glad to be of further service to her state, she placed one ferry—the *Julia B*—at the service of the Major.

The next morning, drawing eighteen inches of water and flying the Arizona flag, the *Julia B* began her maiden voyage as a flagship. Nellie manned the combination pilot house/engine room, while the three-man crew (Pomeroy, Hotchkiss, and Nellie's husband) occupied the single-car-slot forward deck. The image of this tiny boat on the mighty river mushroomed into a media event. The *Los Angeles Times* special war correspondent dubbed the *Julia B* the "Arizona Navy." Nellie Bush became "Admiral" of the great state's Chaplinesque naval advance. Her loyalty and navigational expertise—as well as all her other public achievements—won her, in 1982, an honored place in the Arizona Women's Hall of Fame.

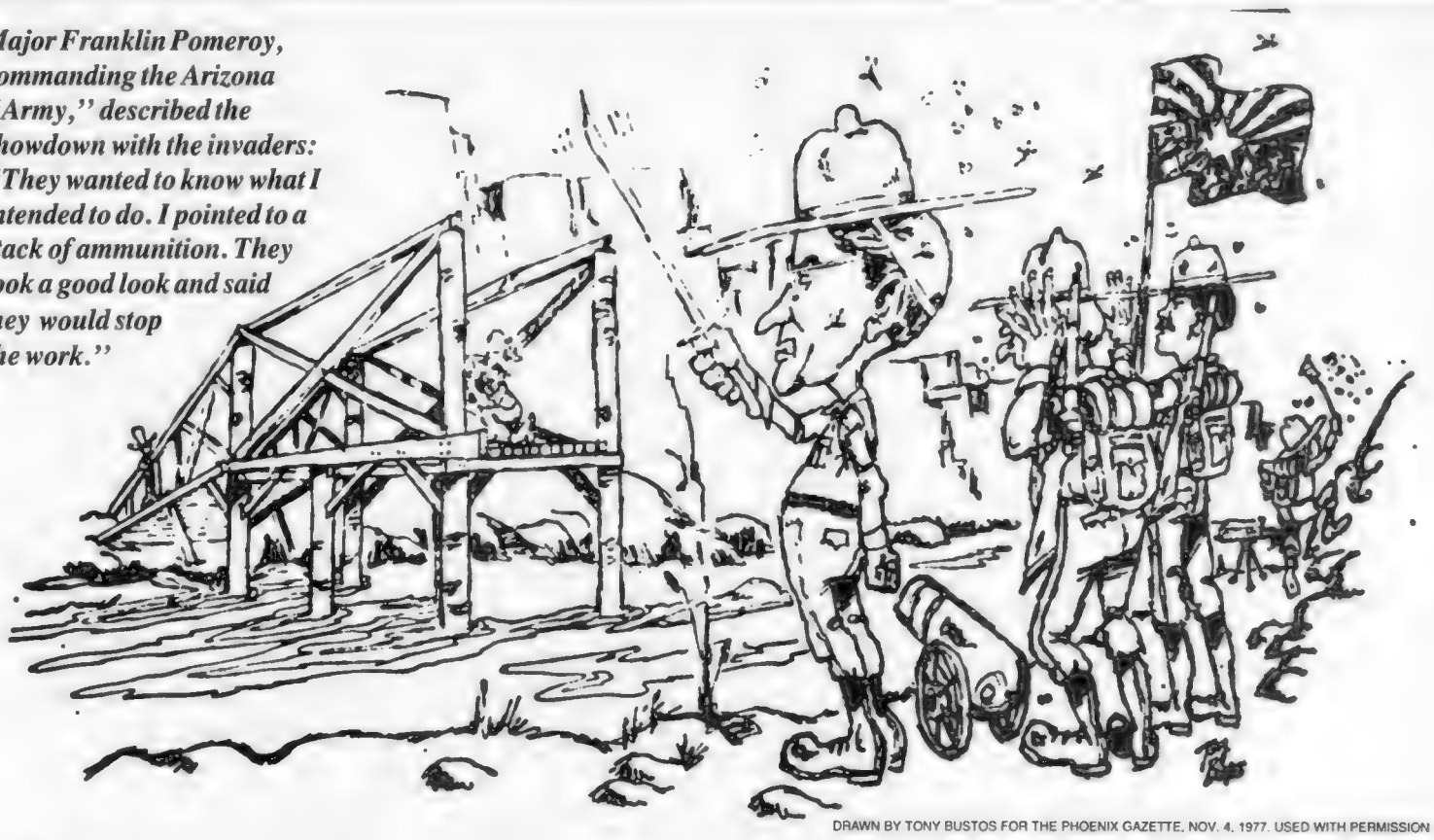
Fighting the spring current, the *Julia B* took until early afternoon to reach the work-site. California and the Bureau of Reclamation had, indeed, violated Arizona's territorial rights. Cables anchored to Arizona's shore and tell-tale pits where soil samples and rock cores had been excavated showed evidence of trespassing by federal and California workers. Worse, the *Julia B* had to choose between ploughing through the cables to reach the bivouac site for Arizona's expeditionary force or lying dead in the water and suffering her first defeat.

The California construction crew recognized the potential for war. An engineer launched one of the company's motorized rowboats and offered to transport Pomeroy farther upstream. Pomeroy accepted and continued to the junction with the Bill Williams River in the rowboat, while the *Julia B* sat useless along the bank of the river, waiting, seemingly forlorn, for the completion of Arizona's first act of naval reconnaissance.

When details of the *Julia B*'s ignominious experience hit the Phoenix newsstands, a small group of Arizona citizens felt humiliated. Clarence Steel, a retired gunner's mate (battle of Manila) warned, "You can't tell what these Los Angeles slickers be up to" and advised that no less than six battleships (including, of course, the USS *Arizona*) be sent up the Colorado to aid the flagship *Julia B*. Retired navy men, angered by Governor Moeur's "ill-advised mobilization of a landlubber Army" (at this point, totaling two men), telegraphed Arizona Representative Isabella Greenway and the Chief of Naval Operations in Washington. They complained that they "were being read out of the great California–Arizona War."

The citizen plan for naval victory died a bureaucratic death, but Governor Moeur, on hearing Pomeroy's report, authorized a landlubber army of three vehicles, including the station wagon, and six men, including Major Pomeroy, to maintain surveillance on the riverfront. In its own exaggerated, inaccurate, but wry style, the *Los Angeles Times* reported the "impending movement of State troops into this theater of war to protect the State of Arizona from invasion by all or part of the State of California."

Each day the bridge crept closer and closer to the Arizona shore. The Governor called out the Guardsmen.



Major Franklin Pomeroy, commanding the Arizona "Army," described the showdown with the invaders: "They wanted to know what I intended to do. I pointed to a stack of ammunition. They took a good look and said they would stop the work."

DRAWN BY TONY BUSTOS FOR THE PHOENIX GAZETTE, NOV. 4, 1977. USED WITH PERMISSION

FOR EIGHT STRAIGHT MONTHS, MAJOR POMEROY AND HIS scouts kept watch on the "overalls army"—the California workers preparing the dam site for construction. Relentless heat, relentless dust (Arizona had its worst dust storm in history in April), and even more relentless mosquitoes toughened the riverfront troops. The expeditionary force avoided naval confrontations by trucking supplies across the Bill Williams riverbed. Their vehicles spun out and sank into the sandy dry wash like local horned toads.

Days off were spent in Parker—not an American National Guardsman's R&R paradise. "It was a rough town," according to Pomeroy, "and things got rather rowdy when California workers came into town and cashed their paychecks." (Nellie Bush also ran the money exchange.) "Some citizens wanted to know if I would police the town with soldiers. I couldn't. It was outside my orders," said Pomeroy. The Arizonans did make occasional friends with the "recruits" in the overalls army. One intoxicated dam worker, on his way to Nellie Bush's ferry, rolled his car into the Colorado, and the guardsmen pulled him out.

Around the first week of November, Six Companies (the construction contractor hired by the Bureau of Reclamation) began seriously to move equipment across the river. A derrick and pile driver began hammering supports for a trestle bridge into the Colorado's riverbed. Each day, pile by pile, the bridge crept closer to the Arizona shore. Pomeroy radioed Phoenix. Governor Moeur sent a telegram to Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes. Washington once more ignored Arizona. Governor Moeur upped the ante. For the first time since the Civil War, a state of the Union rebelled against the federal government and was willing, if not eager, to draw another state into armed combat. The Governor declared martial law. He ordered Arizona National Guardsmen to occupy a strip of land one-mile wide, inland from the river's edge, and three miles south from the mouth of the Bill Williams River and "to use such means as may be necessary to prevent an invasion of the sovereignty and territory of the State of Arizona."

Fifty riflemen with Springfields from Phoenix (Company K under Captain Walter Tweedy), a twenty-four-man machine-gun unit from Prescott (part of Company H under Harry Mayfield), and a five-man medical unit from Tucson prepared to mobilize as soon as the Phoenix Armistice Day Parade ended on November 11. The Colorado River War struggled to the front page of national newspapers, wrestling for top headlines with the Lindbergh kidnapping case and FDR's new public works programs. Early rumblings of Nazism retreated

to the inner pages. Arizona journalists pictured an old-fashioned shoot-out: martial law "gave them [the National Guard] the power to sweep the muddy shores of the Colorado with machine-gun fire to carry out the chief executive's order." The *Los Angeles Times* war correspondent envisioned a magnificent arm-to-arm struggle between the desperately impoverished overalls army and the terribly young (most were under twenty) National Guardsmen of the Arizona forces. Nellie Bush quietly prepared her two one-car ferries to transport the troops. Curbstoners in Parker looked at the fall season low-flow and placed bets on the Arizona Navy: would it float or drydock on the sandbars?

Six Companies pulled back their pile driver. "We were just not working," claimed a member of the overalls army. "And we didn't want anyone from Arizona monkeying around with the derrick. It cost about $20,000, you know." O. Laurgaard, the Bureau of Reclamation engineer, told reporters, "My survey parties will cross the river tomorrow [Monday, November 12] and go on with work as usual." From Washington came an inflammatory telegram. "I can see no reason whatsoever," said Secretary Ickes, "for this [Governor Moeur's] action. However, Arizona is to be congratulated that its finances are in such good shape that it can afford to call out the National Guard. That can be a pretty expensive step." He asked Arizona to settle the dispute in the courts. The Governor countered: "They could change the course of the Colorado River and drain it dry before we could get action from the courts." (A half-century later, all the river-basin states, Mexico, and the fourteen Indian nations within the river basin are still in the courts.)

True to their words, the private contractor, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the overalls army went back to work on Monday, November 12. The "Armistice Day army" bogged down in snafus. Supplies failed to materialize, and the guardsmen sat around in Phoenix until 6:30 on Monday morning. When they were finally on the way, one truck in the eighteen-vehicle caravan broke down outside of Wickenburg. Everyone sat around waiting for repairs. Nevertheless, a cocky spirit reigned. A greenhorn guardsman informed a carful of Californians, "You'd better stay in Arizona and bring your relatives 'cause we're gon' to annex California."

AS WITH MOST WARS, THE RIVALS TELL DIFFERENT STORIES of the big showdown. According to Major Pomeroy: "They [the troops] came to Parker in a convoy arriving about 5:00 P.M. We had intended to move the detachment up to the dam site and maintain a guard on our side of the river. But the news spread fast. The pile driver who was working on the bridge was moved back to the California side and a delegation came to Parker to see me. They wanted to know what I intended to do. I told them I was going to prevent any more work from being done on the Arizona side of the river. How was I going to do it? Well, I pointed to a stack of ammunition, some ammunition boxes, a couple of machine guns, and some other arms. They took a good look and said they would stop work." In the Arizona romance, this was the standoff that ended the war.

The national press had its own version. As Arizona's army began to roll towards Parker, Secretary Ickes's office prepared a telegram that was sent to the Bureau of Reclamation office in Denver and then relayed to Governor Moeur: "Orders have been issued directing that until the question of respective rights of the States has been determined in an orderly manner, there will be no invasion of Arizona's rights." The Governor told his Adjutant-General, Oscar Temple, "Bring 'em back." Oscar asked, "All of them, Governor?" And was told, "Yes, all of 'em, including the scouting party." The caravan of guardsmen was "almost within sight of Parker" when the news of victory arrived.

In both versions, not a shot went off. The dramatics evaporated. A piling stood seventy feet from the Arizona shore—a lonely symbol of the California/federal retreat. Nellie Bush went back to ferrying cars, and the Governor told happy Arizonans: "Well, we won that without much trouble. Maybe the guard boys will benefit by the training and it will be easier to send them back if we are forced to."

Nathan Margold, United States solicitor for the Department of the Interior, lost his sense of humor: "Arizona's military action constitutes a rebellion against the federal government and in taking it Governor Moeur acted completely without warrant or authority in law." Margold threatened withdrawal of all federal funds, nationalization of the militia, mobilization of the regular army to control Arizona's guardsmen, as well as judicial action to restrain Arizona from interfering with dam construction.

The federal government opted for judicial action and lost. The justices of the Supreme Court supported Arizona. Congress, they said, had failed to authorize Parker Dam properly. Arizona cheered, then sighed: Congress corrected its mistake and legally funded the dam. Simultaneously, Governor Moeur demanded the Senate vote Arizona secure water rights. But the Senate could not. That was beyond its powers. Arizona Senator Carl Hayden tried another approach. He demanded federal funds, not water rights, for Arizona irrigation projects,

As with most wars, the rivals tell different stories about events at the final showdown.

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(Clockwise from the top) ***Despite her modest appearance, the*** **Julia B** ***was the flagship of the Arizona "Navy," seeking out invaders with a National Guard cannon mounted on her prow. Intrepid Nellie T. Bush mans the wheel to ferry an auto across the Colorado River at Parker, Arizona. Mrs. Bush was a lady of many talents—an attorney, state legislator, airplane pilot, riverboat pilot, and Admiral of the Arizona Navy. In recent years she was elected to the Arizona Women's Hall of Fame.***

The Colorado River War is dust-covered history, but water arguments never cease.

DRAWN FOR AMERICAN WEST BY DON BUFKIN

THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN

The Colorado is the most negotiated, dammed, and diverted river on Earth–a river used to generate hydroelectric power for more than two hundred utilities and co-ops, to irrigate 3.4 million acres, and to help provide drinking water to more than eleven million souls. It is a unique river comparable in many ways to the African Nile. First, for its size, it has a small flow. The Columbia, with the same size watershed, has about twelve times the Colorado's flow. The tiny Delaware, with one-twentieth the area of the Colorado's basin, yields the same yearly flow. Second, like the Nile, the upper half provides the waterflow into an otherwise desert basin. The Colorado's upper half, with snow-covered peaks and cold-winter plateaus, provides ninety percent of the runoff. Its lower half of hot desert provides little snow, little rain, and lots of evaporation. But the lower half does have groundwater basins filled with "fossil" water from bygone eras. These have been heavily mined. The upper basin snowpack and lower basin groundwater set the stage for all the hope, greed, human settlement, waterworks, sacred religious sites, judicial and legislative bickering that have characterized the Colorado's history.

and he got them by pork barrelling with other Westerners. In December 1935 Governor Moeur, satisfied with Hayden's more fruitful strategy, rescinded martial law. The overalls army returned to work.

Now, more than half a century after the Colorado River War, Lake Havasu (the reservoir behind Parker Dam) supplies water to half the households of the Tijuana/San Diego/Los Angeles metroplex. Arizona has its own enormous aqueduct, the Granite Reef, also sucking Colorado riverflow from Lake Havasu and pumping it 212 miles to Phoenix. Nellie Bush's ferries have been mothballed. Two bridges—at Parker and the dam itself—take traffic across the midstream thread. The Great Colorado River War is dust-covered history, but water wars never cease.

Arizona and California have become bosom buddies. They have a common enemy: four Amerindian tribes who have sued for their share of the Colorado's flow. But California has become a state divided—southern real estate and agricultural interests are battling with taxpayers, northern California, and the high Sierra for more riverflow. Finally, Mexico and American taxpayers have formed a strange coalition in the "salt wars." Mexico feels that the U.S. violated an old treaty by allowing substandard salty water to flow across the border. American taxpayers feel that salinity control should be paid for by those who profit by it. Right now, taxpayers have been asked to subsidize a salt-control program costing $90 million a year for the next ten years. And more battles loom over wild rivers, oil-shale development, cloudseeding, channeling more water across the Continental Divide to Denver, flow levels in the Grand Canyon that won't dunk river-runners, etcetera. So far, the rivalry has stayed in the courts. No group has marched in the militarized footsteps of Arizona. Everybody seems to agree that it is more profitable to fight with a flood of words for the trickle of remaining flow.

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Peter Warshall, *Ph.D., has worked on community water problems throughout the Colorado River Basin from Crested Butte, Colorado, to Tucson, Arizona. He contributed to the* California Water Atlas *and to the* Whole Earth Catalog *as land use/natural history editor and has written* Septic Tank Practices: A Guide to the Conservation and Reuse of Household Wastewares *(Anchor paperback, 1974).*

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AT THIRTY-FIVE YEARS OF AGE, NELLIE BURGESS COULD have passed for a Fifth Avenue model, willowy and blue-eyed, with curly blondish hair. She was on the staff of the *Chicago Daily News* in 1908 when she noticed an obscure item in the back pages that struck her imagination like a bolt of lightning. Essentially, it said:

> In accordance with the Carey Lands Act, a land drawing will be held at King Hill, Idaho, October 12, 1908. . . . Parcels of 40 acres will be drawn by the holders of lucky numbers if they meet certain requirements.

Nell decided to chuck her newspaper career and go alone to Idaho to be a rancher and "help tame that wild west." She was following the example of her father who had joined the gold stampede in California when he was a young man.

As Nell stepped off the Oregon Short Line at King Hill, she was hailed by a rancher in a buckboard pulled by flashy horses. Henry Hafer introduced himself and offered to drive her around to see the land that was up for grabs. He also informed her that she could rent lodgings at his place if she cared to. Nell Burgess lifted her ankle-length skirt just enough to step into the buckboard. Hafer flipped the tips of the lines to his team's backs, and they trotted off for a lands inspection.

As for King Hill, it appeared to be only the Hammett Land Company's shed surrounded by a few other unpainted look-alikes and tents of folks who had come to the land drawing. Altogether, the settlement was like a grouse's brood of chicks hidden in a sea of sagebrush. On one side the Snake River galloped past; on another, a rimrock formation called King's Crown leaned against the sky. Most prospective settlers were eyeing an old lake bed above the Snake, called The Basin. Nell decided she, too, would select The Basin if she had the chance. She knew all about the requirements. An applicant lucky enough to have his number drawn would pay $65 per acre for water, plus 25¢ per acre for the land. Filing fee was $1. Another 25¢ per acre would be due after five years, when the patent was applied for.

As the day of the drawing arrived, people from far and near tramped excitedly around the land office. Folks were tense because obviously there was not enough land to go around. An outdoor platform had been erected for the drawing, and a large map of the available lands was posted on a board. Under the direction of a land officer, each participant was given a number, and duplicate numbers were thoroughly mixed in an old wooden butter-churn. When an official drew a number from the churn, the applicant having that number could choose from the lands not already selected.

Nell Burgess's number was the fortieth to be drawn. Since her first choice was taken, she settled for her second choice, forty acres of sagebrush hugging a curve of the Snake River. "I wanted to do some fishing, anyway," Nellie joked to a friend. The drawing was finished at 6:00 P.M., with many people going home disappointed—no Idaho land for them.

Following minimum specifications of the Carey Act, Nell built a prove-up cabin, fourteen by sixteen feet. Her bedroom was in the tiny attic, reached by an indoor ladder leading to a trapdoor. To guard against the occasional misfit who came into the area running from the law, Nell devised an ingenious, person-protection device. A box of black pepper was rigged above the trapdoor so that if anyone pushed it up, he'd get a face full of the pungent spice. The resulting sound effects would give Nell a chance to grab the gun she kept in her bed.

Establishing the necessary thirty-day residence, Nell got down to the business of clearing land for crops. She christened her sagebrush acres "Rainbow Ranch" and set about transforming it into an oasis. The first plantings were Grimes Golden and Whitney apple trees and three sunflower seeds, a gift from a preschool niece in Iowa. The precious first plantings were pampered with water carried from the river. Nell's first purchases were a riding horse named Flaxie and a .22 rifle. She learned to shoot from the horse, to bring down wild meat for the table. She bought the milk cow "Coffee," and it produced "Chocolate Cream," the calf.

The ranch's first crop was alfalfa. The three sunflower seeds grew like Jack's beanstalk and became a hitching post for Flaxie. Later, there would be wheat, corn, melons, and assorted fruits. But as soon as the land produced, wildlife moved in to help harvest the crops. Jack rabbits nibbled at alfalfa, coyotes liked plums, while porcupines preferred apples, especially the choicest Grimes Golden. Packrats' tastes went to eggs, and magpies also joined in robbing hens' nests. Civet cats tried to help, too, but Nell trapped them in pieces of stovepipe.

Nell had a constant yearning for browned pork chops with gravy. And for spicy sausage to trim pancakes. Idaho was a sheep state and offered wild game such as deer, jack rabbits, quail, and sagehens, with an occasional sturgeon for Friday dinners. After a time, all the thoughts about succulent pork triggered the purchase of Lloyd the pig, who was put in a fattening pen. Lloyd wasn't of a mind to be carved into chops—so he escaped and dashed for the river. Nell told this story:

> We scrambled after Lloyd as fast as we could, fearing he would fall into the Snake and drown. But, alas, our

ALL PHOTOS FROM AUTHOR'S COLLECTION

PIONEER LADY HOMESTEADER IN IDAHO

Life in a prove-up cabin: trapdoors, swimming pigs, and a hardy spirit

by Marjorie Vandervelde

pork-on-legs had vanished. We stood forlornly by the river. A log came floating past. Suddenly it flapped its ears, waved its curly tail, and swam for the far side. Lloyd was alive!

Then another hazard appeared. Across the river a crew was working on the railroad. Of course, we knew those fellows were as honest as the governor of Idaho. But pork chops are pork chops; so we had to hurry. Swim the river? A neighbor offered transportation. Across the river we searched, calling Lloyd and assuring him we weren't even thinking of pork sausage. . . .

Suddenly, Lloyd was there, drowsing in the speckled shade of some brush. The searchers were ready for a footrace with Lloyd, but he walked slowly to the river, plunged in, and swam back to his pen.

Lovely Nellie Burgess left a Chicago newspaper job in 1908 to homestead alone in southwestern Idaho. Her adventurous and independent spirit overcame obstacles and led to a peaceful, full life close to the land.

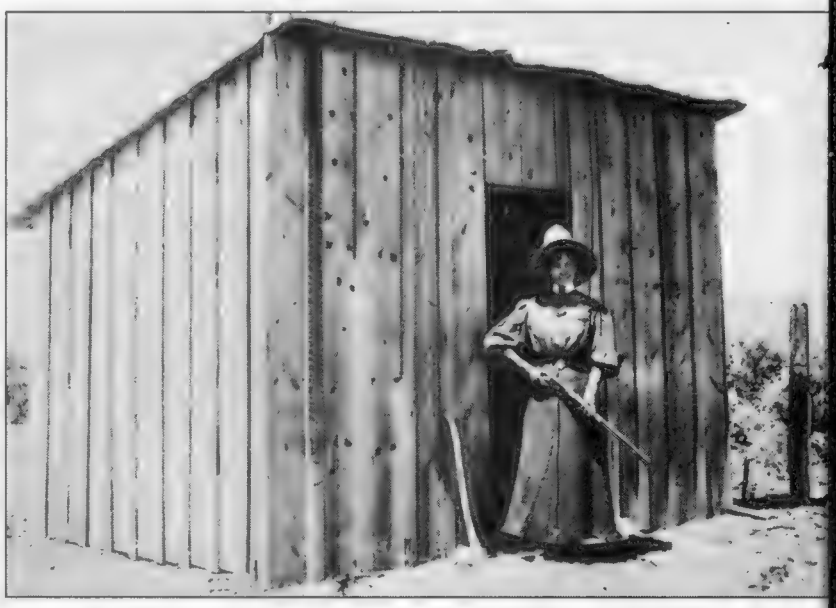
ONE OF THE EARLY PROJECTS OF THE SETTLERS AT King Hill was the building of a community church. Pastors came from various denominations, as the ranchers were willing to give a bit where creed and theology were concerned. When one pastor insisted on baptism by immersion, the congregation obligingly moved down by the Snake. A lad took his fishing pole along. When Nell happened to have a guest at Rainbow Ranch, she and her visitor went to church by the ride-and-tie method since there was only one horse at first. They started out with one person walking and the other riding. After a mile or so, the rider got off, tied the horse, and started walking. When the first walker reached the horse, he rode a mile or so, then tied up, and took his turn walking. It took a long while to get anywhere, using the ride-and-tie method.

Remember the Iowa niece who gave Nell the three sunflower seeds? Well, there were nine nieces and nephews in that family, and they all wanted to go out and live with Aunt Nell. In good time they did get to visit the Rainbow. But nephew Glenn Mills, at age sixteen, was lent to Nell, for his parents were concerned about her safety, alone in the Wild West. Nell met Glenn's train in 1912. She rode Flaxie and led Cricket for Glenn to ride. By the time they got to the Rainbow, Glenn had shot enough jack rabbits to cover Cricket like a horse blanket.

Nell and Glenn made horseback trips to the mountains to pick berries and to hunt deer and elk. Nell's journal tells this story:

> Glenn and I lost our way in the mountains and ran low on grubb. With only a little pancake flour and no grease to fry the cakes in, Glenn shot a lean and skinny squirrel. We tried to fry out the sparse fat. . . . At long last we came out at the little town of Soldier [since then it has marched down the road to become Fairfield, Idaho]. We tied up by a restaurant and ordered big meals, including berry pie. We made short work of those meals, and reordered duplicates!
>
> We were still days from home. In true western style we used saddles for pillows, and saddle blankets plus a blazing fire to ward off the mountain cold.

On another such trek the grouse and rabbits were scarce; so, supplies were low again. They came across John and Maggie Rickert, who had taken their stock to high pasture. Nell asked if she might buy hay for Flaxie and Cricket. "Nope," the craggy mountain couple replied. "Most of ourn washed down river." Undaunted, Nell asked if she might buy a loaf of bread.



(Clockwise, beginning top right) ***After a few years of hard work, Nellie Burgess could enjoy her garden and orchard. The prove-up cabin now offered a tiny front porch where Nell could dine and view her acres and the sinuous Snake. The bronze plaque on the Rainbow Ranch honors Nell as a pioneer in King Hill. Her grave is elsewhere, in the cemetery at nearby Glenns Ferry. Glenn Mills stands at right in the group admiring the four-hundred-pound sturgeon that he caught in the spring of 1917 in the Snake River near Nell's place. A neighbor of Nellie Burgess in 1908, Rose Fink stands in front of her prove-up cabin, ready wth gun and ax to discourage any unwelcome visitors.***

An older Nellie Burgess shows the world a steady gaze as she gardens in sunbonnet and gingham jumper. Her beautiful face reflects the strong character that she displayed in claiming her land and making it her home.

"Nope," the answer came. So, Nell and Glenn retreated a safe distance and broke out the pittance of pancake flour. The next day they came to Camas Prairie. Farmers had harvested their grain fields, and flocks of sagehens were feeding, providing a welcome dinner for the travelers.

Glenn fished the Snake, trapped and hunted, looked for Indian artifacts. He chased wild horses back from the river into the desert. Winding past Rainbow Ranch, the Snake River bucked like a nervous mustang. At times there was great splashing, like a horse thrashing under water. Glenn set a sturgeon line—a rope and giant hook baited with eel. In May of 1917 he hooked and landed a four-hundred-pound sturgeon, ten feet long. It provided dinners for the surrounding population, besides being photogenic and furnishing conversation.

One Easter morning Glenn hooked another sturgeon at the same spot in the rollicking Snake. He gave it leash enough to return to a deep hole, then tied the rope to a tree and went to church. He told the Reverend Reese, "I've got a sturgeon hooked, though I don't know whether I should, it being Sunday and all." Reese's eyes twinkled. "The Bible says, somewhere, to go and do likewise. I'll get my hat and go down to the river with you." That sturgeon was an eighty pounder.

His Idaho experiences bolstered Glenn Mills when he enlisted in the United States Navy in World War I. His Aunt Nell was left in good hands, as she had married neighbor rancher Dave Sudduth in October 1914.

In 1958 Nell was alone again, a widow, when the few remaining early settlers celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the 1908 land drawing. King Hill's business district had evaporated, leaving a bedroom town, with most residents commuting to jobs elsewhere. Ranches remained prosperous and productive.

When the sixtieth anniversary of the King Hill land drawing was observed in 1968, Nell Burgess Sudduth was the only survivor of the October 12, 1908, drawing. But Nell died suddenly soon after, a true Western pioneer, much esteemed for her courageous and adventurous spirit. In the grassy mini-park of the Rainbow Ranch, sprayed by the Snake River, is a bronze plaque honoring this Western woman:

Nellie B. Sudduth
1873 — 1968
Early King Hill Pioneer

Marjorie Vandervelde, *of Emmetsburg, Iowa, is a niece of Nellie Burgess Sudduth. To write this nostalgic piece, she used the journal and letters of Nell plus information from Glenn Mills and Ken Jones.*

Illuminating Western History

Martha Maxwell
Rocky Mountain Naturalist
By Maxine Benson

Naturalist, taxidermist, museologist, artist—Martha Maxwell pioneered in a number of fields new for women in the 19th century and her accomplishments were far-reaching. Benson's biography is the first to give recognition to this remarkable and pathbreaking woman. October. $22.95 tentative.

River of Lost Dreams
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By Pat Kelley

The Rio Grande, river of lore and legend, is the subject of this richly detailed, in-depth study of navigation on that remarkable ribbon of water stretching from Colorado to the Gulf of Mexico. November. $17.95 tentative.

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA PRESS
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"One of the best books ever written on the Texas range."—William S. Reese. An engaging, unpretentious first-hand account of what it was really like to be a cowboy in the ornery Texas panhandle country. **$4.95**.

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Being the Reminiscences of Oliver Nelson
By Oliver Nelson
Edited by Angie Debo

"Well-written, amusing, and authentic."—Walter S. Campbell (Stanley Vestal). In colorful and humorous detail, Nelson recalls what it was like to travel the famous Chisholm Trail before barbed wire closed the range. **$8.95**.

Piñon Country
By Haniel Long
Foreword by Tony Hillerman

"Much before it was fashionable Long was an ecologist, a conservationist, and a spokesman for Southwestern minorities. *Piñon Country* is a meaningful book."—*Southwest Classics*. Spanish explorers, Kit Carson, Billy the Kid, marijuana, the Mormons, and miners are among the wealth of topics covered by Long. **$8.95**.

The Great Salt Lake
By Dale L. Morgan
Introduction by Milo Milton Quaife

"Morgan knows the people of the Great Basin area. To those who love the Great Basin desert he has given a book packed with history, romance, geology, social conflict, religion, and speculation."—*American Historical Review*. **$10.95**.

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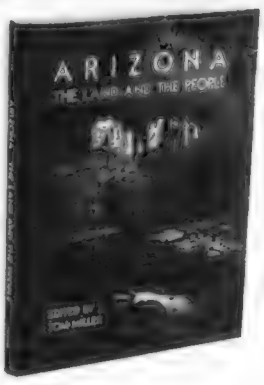


Arizona: The Land and the People

edited by Tom Miller

A team of the Southwest's finest writers and photographers have captured all of Arizona's natural and social history in a book that's as informative as it is beautiful. Discover the state behind the picture postcards in this handsome volume. *300 pp. (8½ x 11), 150 color & 40 b/w ill. $35 ($29.95 through 12/86).*

Navajo Trader

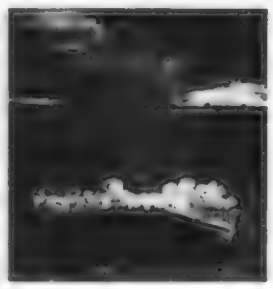
by Gladwell Richardson

One of the last of the original traders recalls his forty years managing numerous posts on the Navajo Reservation. *210 pp. $19.95.*

Blue Desert

by Charles Bowden

A shocking view of the Sunbelt beset by overdevelopment and exploitation, "both lively and elegiac, somber and entertaining" (Edward Abbey). *181 pp. $16.95.*



Four Corners Country

by Dick Arentz with Ian Thompson

Large-format photographs reflect the desolate beauty of—and human encroachments into—one of America's most remote and rugged regions, with supporting text on its geography and history. *110 pp., 55 plates. $27.50.*

Massacre on the Gila

by Clifton B. Kroeber & Bernard L. Fontana

The last known battle between North American Indians sheds light on the nature of war itself. *210 pp. $26.50.*

The University of Arizona Press
1615 E. Speedway, Tucson, AZ 85719

TRAVEL CALENDAR

September 1986 through February 1987

Keep your spirits bright this fall and winter—join in the fun at these entertaining events highlighted in AMERICAN WEST's semiannual travel calendar. Harvest festivals, rootin'-tootin' rodeos, and crazy winter contests abound in every state west of the Mississippi. Since dates and times can change without notice, please check in advance, using the telephone numbers listed for each event.

ILLUSTRATIONS DRAWN FOR AMERICAN WEST BY MARK D. TUCCI/BLUE HORSE PRODUCTIONS

ALASKA

Alaska Division of Tourism
Pouch E
Juneau, Alaska 99811
(907) 465-2010

September

19: Klondike Trail of '98 Road Relay. Go for the Klondike gold! Relive history and follow the route the miners of '98 took during the Klondike gold rush. Teams of ten racers run legs of five to seventeen miles over a 110-mile course from Skagway to Whitehorse in the Yukon that parallels White Pass Trail. The race begins at midnight; so, bring your headlamps. Skagway. (907) 983-2297

October

1st week in Oct.: Kachemak Bay Appreciation Days. Fair-weather fun includes kayaking contests, motor- and sailboat races, a seafood cook-off, concerts, and art exhibits. Homer. (907) 235-6030

November

13–16: Festival of the North. Three days of culture filled with classical music, ballet, and songs sung by a community chorus. Ketchikan. (907) 225-6166

December

7: Candle Lighting Service. The golden glow of candlelight casts a holiday spell over everyone gathered to sing Christmas songs. Local children recite original poems, and awards for the citizen and business of the year are given out. North Pole near Fairbanks. (907) 488-6778

February

13–15: Taku Rondy. Meet Joe Juneau or Klondike Kate, re-creations of pioneer characters, while taking part in the ski races or watching log-rolling, pie-in-the-eye, and dog-pulling contests. An old-fashioned square dance, salmon-burger-eating contest, and champagne brunch, too. Juneau. (907) 586-6420

26–Mar. 1: Valdez Winter Carnival. Shake cabin fever and exercise your creativity at a snow sculpture contest, or get your blood circulating with a polar bear splash-in. An indoor Hawaiian-style beach party offers bathers a chance to warm up. Valdez. (907) 835-2984

ARIZONA

Arizona Office of Tourism
1480 East Bethany Home Road, #180
Phoenix, Arizona 85014
(602) 255-3618

September

27: United Way of Pinal County Raft Regatta.

Wacky water fun as adults and teenagers take to the lake in crazy rafts powered by paddlewheels, oars, and paddles, racing around a fountain and back. Prizes go to the ugliest, prettiest, and best-designed rafts. Arizona City. (602) 836-0736

October

1–12: London Bridge Days. London Bridge is falling down, falling down . . . oops, not anymore. In honor of the bridge's relocation to Lake Havasu City in 1968, a parade, nightly musical performances, turn-of-the-century costume contest, kinetic sculpture race, and visits by former lord mayors of London are held. Lake Havasu City. (602) 855-4115

17–19: Helldorado Days. See the Arizona those romantic Westerns portray. Gunfights like the "Bisbee Massacre," "Waco Bill Meets Marshall Duffield," and "Cowboy Ruff's Last Meal" offer a taste of wild frontier life. A parade, carnival, and, of course, daily gunfights at the O.K. Corral as well. Tombstone. (602) 457-2205

24–26: Southwest Heritage Days. Discover the secrets of traditions like Navajo weaving and doll-making and Pueblo sandpainting and silversmithing as artists and authors hosted by the Arizona Historical Society demonstrate crafts and skills from batik to gold-panning. Tucson. (602) 623-8915

November

7–9: Four Corners State Bluegrass Music Finals. Anyone may strum, sing, or fiddle up a storm at this old-time competition for fiddle, banjo, and guitar players and vocalists. Cloggers and a professional band liven up the intermissions. Wickenburg. (602) 684-5479

January

24, 29–Feb. 1: Parada Del Sol. The "World's Longest Horse-drawn Parade" is this event's claim to fame. Four days of action-packed PRCA rodeo follow. Scottsdale. (602) 945-8481

ARKANSAS

Department of Parks and Tourism
One Capitol Mall
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201
(501) 371-7777

September

20: Maynard Pioneer Parade. This tiny town triples in population on this fun-filled day. A parade floats through the streets and winds up at the Maynard Pioneer Museum and Park, which features a reconstructed log cabin furnished with collectibles from the late 1800s. Music, contests, and games for all. Maynard. (501) 647-2701

October

4–5: Environmental Backpacking Workshop. Hit the trail! Learn how to backpack on a free, guided, overnighter in Devil's Den State Park. Hikers will follow the beautiful Butterfield Trail through the Ozark mountains, identifying wildflowers and foliage along the way. Call ahead to sign up. West Fork. (501) 761-3325

11–12: 10th Annual Arkansas Rice Festival. Arkansas celebrates its status as top rice-producing state in the country. Taste free samples of regional dishes made with rice, and see who can speedily eat the most of it—with chopsticks! Three stages of entertainment, buggy rides, clowns, and a bicycle race guarantee a good time for everyone. Weiner. (501) 684-7198

November

21–23: Healthfest/Spa 10K. Here's to your health! Get your heart pumping in a weekend offering a variety of athletic activities and fitness exhibits. The course of the state championship 10K race on Saturday takes runners right past famous Bath House Row, where weary weekend athletes have been finding relaxation in the thermal baths for years. Hot Springs. Out of state (800) 643-1570; in state (800) 272-2081

December

6–7: Battle of Prairie Grove Commemorative Weekend. Civil War soldiers live again in this living-history reenactment on the anniversary of the battle of 1872. Cannon firing, marching, cooking, and cavalry drills are all part of the historical hoopia at Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park. Prairie Grove. (501) 846-2990

CALIFORNIA

California Office of Tourism
1121 L Street, Suite 103
Sacramento, California 95814
(916) 322-2881

September

6–7: Russian River Jazz Festival. Boogie on Midway Beach. The sounds of international jazz musicians performing on an outdoor stage fill the air. Listeners can swim, sunbathe, and dance in the sand to soulful tunes from noon until dark. Guerneville. (707) 887-7720

18–21: Grape Festival & National Wine Show. Participants jump into this celebration of the wine industry feet first—competing to see who can produce the most juice in a two-minute grape stomp. Daily flower shows, murals designed with grapes, an art show, and carnival are all part of this vineyard frolic. Lodi. (209) 369-2771

October

12: Butterflies and Breakers 10K Run. Runners may spot majestic monarchs while racing through Butterfly Town, U.S.A. Half of the rolling, coastline course lies just yards away from the beautiful Pacific. Pacific Grove. (408) 372-2809

November

1: Ride & Tie. Members of two-person teams alternate running and riding horseback to cover ground in this unique race. The thirty-mile course winds through lush meadows and forests of golden autumn leaves in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park. Descanso. (619) 726-4566

December

17–23: Christmas Boat Parade of Lights. Beginning at sundown each evening, hundreds of brightly decorated boats parade through Newport Harbor. The colors of lights and the melodies of caroling sailors bring the bay to life while spectators watch from the piers. Newport Beach. (714) 644-8211

January

10–11: Mushroom Fair. Brave the wilds with a member of the San Francisco Mycological Society to gather fabulous fungi. Then learn how to prepare mushroom dishes and mushroom dyes with your finds. Many varieties native to the Bay Area will be displayed at the Coyote Park Museum for Environmental Education. San Mateo. (415) 342-7755

COLORADO

Colorado Tourism Board
5500 South Syracuse St., Suite 267
Englewood, Colorado 80111
(303) 779-1067

September

Aug. 27–Sep. 7: 1986 World Cycling Championships. Held in the United States for the first time, the championships attract over 600 of the world's best cyclists. Begun in 1895, the races have been expanded from track sprints to include women's events and long-distance races like a 162-miler and a pro road race. A world congress on the medical and scientific aspects of cycling featuring international experts will be held Sep. 2–3. Colorado Springs. (303) 578-4627

14–15: St. Patrick's Day Practice Parade and No O_2 Race. The day before this high-elevation 10K, everybody dons the green and marches about town to bagpipe music. Kegs of green beer follow. Leadville. (303) 486-0418

October

3–5: River Rendezvous. River rafters get together for fun and educational purposes. Raft-flipping contests, a dutch-oven cook-off, and tug-of-war (in the water, of course), lighten up river-safety seminars. A wilderness run-for-fun, barbecues, and lots of beer, too. Telluride. (303) 728-3041

December

21: Yule Log Hunt. Teams of winter merry-

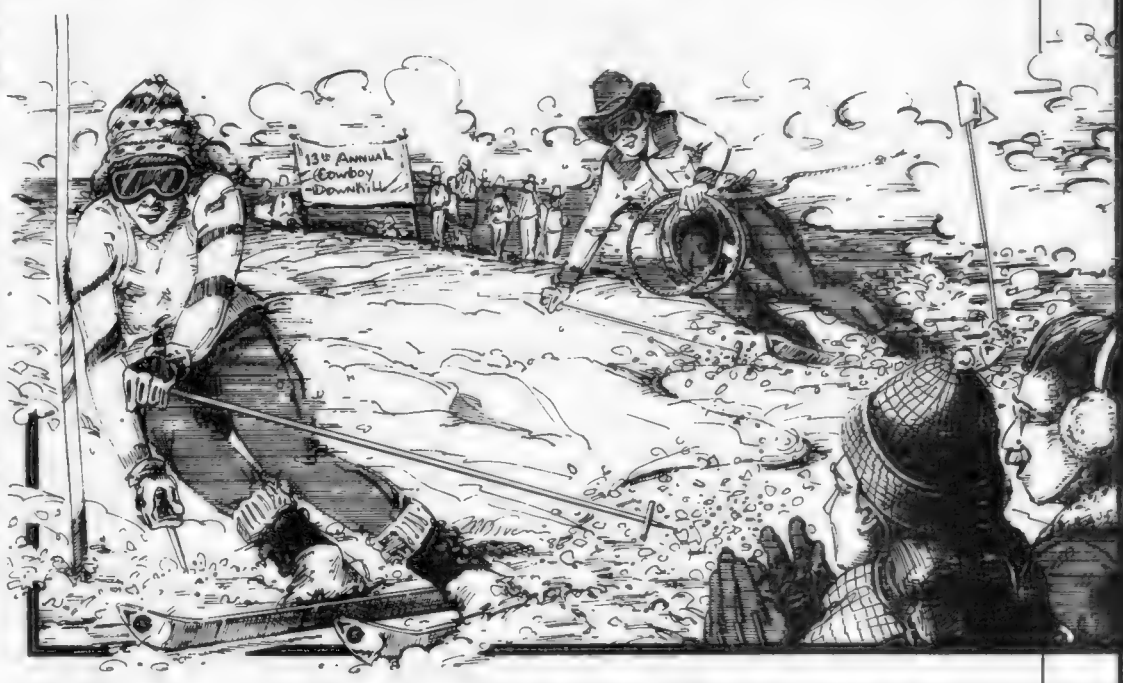
makers in red capes are led by a green-caped leader in a mountainside search for the Yule log. The finder gets a ride into town on the log courtesy of his fellow hunters. Wassail for all after the hunt. Palmer Lake. (303) 481-2953

January

14: 13th Annual Cowboy Downhill. Watch the wildest Western fun on the slopes as sixty of the best professional rodeo cowboys slalom down a hill, try to lasso a ski hostess, and saddle a horse. Steamboat Springs. (303) 879-6111

February

Early: Cardboard Classic. Children five and older and adults are invited to create the wackiest, weirdest, and most outrageous cardboard sleds and race them through the powder. Craig. (303) 824-3587



HAWAII

Hawaii Visitors Bureau
2270 Kalakaua Avenue, Suite 801
Honolulu, Hawaii 96815
(808) 923-1811

October

10–19: Mitsubishi Aloha Classic. Skillful, strong-muscled windsurfing champions ride the wind and water in wave and slalom events. Ho'okipa Beach, Maui. (808) 579-9765

November

9: Michelob Polo Cup. Watch the teamwork between man and horse as fast-moving hooves churn up the turf. Makawao, Maui. (808) 877-5541

11: Turkey Swim. A 2K race through the ocean to win gobblers to grace your Thanksgiving table. All ages welcome. Ala Moana Beach, Oahu. (808) 536-3556

30–Dec. 10: Hawaii International Film Festival. "When Strangers Meet" is the theme of current cross-cultural films from Asia, the Pacific, and the United States. An academic film symposium will also be held on "Humor in Cinema East & West" in Waikiki. Through Dec. 6, Honolulu, Oahu; Dec. 7–10, Maui and Kauai. (808) 944-7666

January

Late–Feb. 28: 1987 Humpback Whale Celebration. Attend lectures on how to spot pods of these spouting giants of the deep who migrate to the islands to give birth and breed. Evening discussions by renowned humpback whale researchers, too. A marine art youth show runs Feb. 15–28. Sea Life Park, Waimanalo, Oahu. (808) 923-8448

February

Late: Captain Cook Festival. Ahoy there, matey. Join the crew celebrating Captain Cook's discovery of the Hawaiian Islands and enjoy canoe races, the Captain Cook Caper (a 7.4-mile run), spitted roast pig, and dancing in the streets. Waimea, Kauai. (808) 338-1625

IDAHO

Idaho Travel Council
Capitol Building, Room 108
Boise, Idaho 83720
(208) 334-2470

September

Aug. 30–31, Sep. 1: Grand Teton Car "Krooze." This show-and-shine is for hot rods that are pre-1948 but revved up with late model drive trains. Special interest cars are welcome, too. Driggs. (208) 354-2292

12–14: Lumberjack Days and Clearwater County Fair. Indulge your Paul Bunyan fantasies and take part in ax-throwing, chopping, and power-saw contests. A street dance and auction are held for the less athletically inclined. Orofino. (208) 476-3412

October

3–12: Octoberfest. Fete the fall season with merry polka dancing, lots of German beer and food, a farmer's market, and the NW Regional Soccer Tournament. Coeur D'Alene. (208) 765-4969

December

13: Handel's Messiah. An uplifting evening of music to put everyone in the true Christmas spirit. Sandpoint. (208) 263-2161

February

Early: Busterback Stampede. Make way for a whole herd of hard-driving cross-country skiers as they glide along in this 15K race. All ages welcome. Sawtooth City. (208) 774-2217

Early: Logging 4-Bar Days. Men and women test their mettle at crosscut-sawing and ax-throwing contests, then maggots go at it inch by sluggish inch in a race to reach the outer edge of a one-foot circle. Prichard. (208) 682-3695

IOWA

Visitors & Tourism
600 E. Court Avenue, Suite A
Des Moines, Iowa 50309
(515) 281-5536

September

20: Pioneer Craft Day Festival. More than thirty pioneer skills like threshing, spinning, weaving, and rope braiding are demonstrated at the historic Nelson Pioneer Farm. Oskaloosa. (575) 672-2591

27–28: Fort Atkinson Rendezvous. Hundreds of participants travel back to the trapper days of the 1840s. Buckskinners in period dress cook over an open fire, while others demonstrate crafts and compete in black-powder shoots. Fort Atkinson. (515) 281-5629

October

11–12: Covered Bridge Festival. Six historic covered bridges surround the setting of this town festival. People from all over the country dressed in 1800s garb demonstrate candle-dipping, sheep-shearing, blacksmithing, and pot-throwing. Two blocks from the town square visitors can tour the house where John Wayne was born. Winterset. (515) 462-1185

December

5–7, 12–14: Living History Farms Christmas Celebration. Celebrate the holidays the old-fashioned way strolling through the 1875 town of Walnut Hill and a 1900 horse-powered farm. Join in the caroling around the pump organ, take a bobsled ride, string pop-

corn for the tree, and shop for presents in the general store. Urbandale. (515) 278-5286

7–31: Prisoner of War Nativity Scene. German prisoners of war detained in the Algona camp from 1944–1946 constructed this spectacular half-life-size manger scene. See it on display at the Kossuth County Fairgrounds, and learn how the POWs mustered up enough funds and spirit to bring their idea to fruition. Algona. (515) 295-5294

February

7: "BRR" Bike Ride to Rippey. Hundreds of happy pedalers bundle up for this twenty-three-mile, round-trip excursion. A stop for hot cocoa warms everybody up, and warm-weather prizes like rafts and picnic baskets remind riders that winter won't last forever. Perry. (515) 465-4601

KANSAS

Kansas Dept. of Economic Development
Travel and Tourism Division
503 Kansas, 6th floor
Topeka, Kansas 66603
(913) 296-2009

September

14–21: Buffalo Bill Days. To commemorate the years Buffalo Bill lived near Leavenworth, the town hosts a week filled with hot-air balloon and outhouses-on-wheels races, professional wrestling, a 10K run, country-and-western dances, and a barbecue. Leavenworth. (913) 682-4112

October

5: Mid-America Train Show. Whoo-whoooo! A train-lover's dream come true—old-fashioned American Flyer and Lionel engines along with the train industry's latest, like the new German LBG Gauge engine. Kansas City. (816) 524-2444

November

1–30: Annual Handmade Quilt Show. Take a look at genuine American folk art—hand-pieced quilts, made by members of the community. Haysville. (316) 524-5242

December

5–6: Yulefeast. A feast fit for a king. This Renaissance madrigal dinner puts on a spread that could distract Henry VIII from his marital problems—complete with wassail, boar's head, and flaming pudding. Ottawa University madrigal singers accompanied by a string consort, recorders, and handbells entertain, along with jesters and magicians. Ottawa. (913) 242-5200

January

31–Feb. 28: Five-State Juried Photography Show. Contemporary works by amateur and some professional photographers. Hays. (913) 272-8681

LOUISIANA

Office of Tourism
Box 44291
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9983
(504) 925-3860

September

6–7: Cajun Day Festival. A celebration of all things Cajun—a most-original-dress contest (Cajun attire) for women fifty and over, a French-speaking contest for youngsters, French music with Cajun bands, and the highlight of the festival, an accordion contest for players aged four to ninety. Church Point. (318) 684-2739

October

10–12: Tamale Fiesta. Check out the hot tamales at the fiesta ball or enjoy a tamale-eating contest and a tamale-making contest. A carnival and street dance, lots of arts and crafts, and a dog show round out the weekend. Zwolle. (318) 645-6988

10–12: Gumbo Festival. Don't eat before this one! The self-proclaimed gumbo capital of the world dishes out hearty servings of their specialty, along with jambalaya, hot chili, oyster loaves, you name it. Cajun, country, and rock music, square dancing, carnival rides, and a gumbo-cooking contest help lure visitors from the food. Bridge City. (504) 436-4712

11, 19: Gator Bash Dance and International Alligator Festival. Dance to the Cajun beat of the *Fa Tras* (Cajun for trash) on the 11th, then head out on the 19th to more gator-good times at the festival, featuring an alligator-cooking contest and an auction, where goods and services like an alligator hunting trip can be purchased to raise money for local schools. Franklin. (318) 828-3487

November

14–16: Country Peddler Show. Visit an old-fashioned antique and folk art show, where craftspeople peddle their wares in old-time style. Country and antique interior design displays, too. Baton Rouge. (517) 669-5162

January

10–11: 172nd Anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans. The boom and crash of cannon and guns echo through the park during a reenactment of the famous battle that laid the British low. Rangers discuss aspects of the battle and the War of 1812 throughout the day. Chalmette Battlefield. (504) 589-4430

MINNESOTA

Minnesota Office of Tourism
240 Bremer Building, 419 N. Roberts St.
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101
(800) 328-1461 or (800) 652-9747

September

4–7: Defeat of Jesse James Days/Annual Art Fair. Jesse James and his gang attempt to rob the Northfield bank in a reenactment of their Sep. 7, 1876, raid, where Jesse gets away with his life, but not with the money. Modern entertainments include 5K and 15K races, a men's softball tournament, antique tractor pull, professional rodeo, and drum and bugle contest. Northfield. (507) 645-8877

October

4–5: Prairie Sugar, Sorghum Pressing, and Syrup Melting. Delicious harvest-time goodies are made the old-fashioned way before your eyes: sorghum is harvested, pressed in an 1867-style horse-turned press, then boiled down into molasses. Learn about plowing with oxen and corn shucking, too, on this living history farm. Elk River. (612) 441-6896

5: Fall Festival Fiddler's Contest. Swift-fingered fiddlers provide a lively tempo for people pressing fresh apple cider. Terrace. (612) 278-3289

25–26: Southern Minnesota Coin Show. Numismatists get a chance to go crazy over displays of coins, medals, tokens, and paper money. Bloomington. (507) 289-5099

January

16–25: Ice Box Days. Crazy cabin-fever fun includes smoosh races (four skiers crowd onto two ten-foot two-by-fours), "freeze yer gizzard blizzard" run, voyageur loppet (cross-country ski race), ice-cream-pail curling, and softball on ice. International Falls. (218) 283-9400

February

2–8: Ole and Lena Days. Townsfolk search for Ole and Lena medallions and try to crack the best Ole-and-Lena jokes over the radio. Inner-tube races in the snow and a softball tournament, too. Granite. (612) 564-4081

MISSOURI

Missouri Division of Tourism
Truman State Office Building
P.O. Box 1055
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
(314) 751-4133

September

5–7, 10–14: Annual Quilt Show and Sale. Ward off autumn chills with a cozy new quilt. Hundreds of handmade beauties from several states will be displayed and sold at Silver Dollar City, a frontier village that sends visitors 100 years back in time. Branson. (417) 338-8210

October

3–5: Robidoux Festival. Folks in 1850s period dress gather to honor the memory of fur trader Joseph Robidoux, the town founder. Tour Robidoux Row Museum to see Indian

and fur-trading artifacts of Missouri's earlier days. St. Joseph. (816) 232-4461

November

29–30, Jan. 17–18, 24–25: Bald Eagle Days. The Department of Conservation presents a film, lecture, and up-close introduction to Omega, a fist-trained eagle, along with field trips to outdoor viewing stations at wildlife refuges near Mound City, Poplar Bluff, and Clarksville. Viewers must register one-to-two months in advance. (314) 751-4115

14: French Candlelight Christmas. Begin your *Joyeux Noël* with a candlelit tour of the historic Felix Valle House, decorated in the French tradition. A spectacular *réveillon* (Christmas breakfast feast) will be displayed, as well as a *crèche*—the Roman Catholic French focal point of the holiday celebration. Ste. Genevieve. (314) 883-7102

MONTANA

Travel Montana
Department of Commerce
1424 9th Avenue
Helena, Montana 59620
(800) 548-3390 or (406) 444-2654

September

13: Bazaart in the Park. Get a taste of local culture at this all-day art fair featuring crafts like woodworking and wheat-weaving, live music and dancers, and painting demonstrations. Wolf Point. (406) 653-2516

19–21: Libby Nordicfest. The descendants of Scandinavian miners and loggers celebrate their heritage with a Norwegian horse show, folk dancing, Swedish meatballs, and a melodrama. Libby. (406) 293-3832

October

10–12: Electrum. An evening of big-name entertainment opens up this weekend art festival featuring a fine arts show and a photography show. Artists demonstrate the techniques behind activities like sculpture, pottery and printing. Helena. (406) 442-5740

18–25: 19th Annual Northern International Livestock Exposition. Six days of rompin', stompin' rodeo, including a heart-stopping bullfighting competition. Cattle, horses, sheep, and swine are on display, coinciding with a full-scale trade show of equipment and services for ranchers and farmers. Billings. (406) 259-5595

November

29–30, Dec. 6–7, 13–14: Renaissance Art Fair. Revisit the days of court jesters and Machiavellian princes while sampling local artists' wares. A madrigal dinner with music by the Missoula Symphony may also be held. Missoula. (406) 543-4238

February

Early: Winter Fest. Take advantage of the winter weather with a snow-softball game, cross-country ski races, snowmobile races, coed volleyball games, and an amateur photography contest. Lewistown. (406) 538-5436

NEBRASKA

Nebraska Division of Travel and Tourism
Department of Economic Development
P.O. Box 94666
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509
(800) 228-4307

September

5–6: Cozad Hay Days. Men with shapely lower limbs can try for the Mr. Legs title, while others can compete in pie-in-the-face and gutter-ball contests or boo, hiss, and cheer at an old-time melodrama. Cozad. (308) 784-3930

25–27: Ogallala Indian Summer Rendezvous. Take advantage of the warm days of Indian Summer and watch buckskin-garbed muzzle-loaders at a black-powder shoot. A free street dance, tug-of-war, band contest, beer garden, horseshoe pitching, and parade

January

24–Feb. 22: "The Spirits of the Rain Forest." This special exhibit at the beautiful Missouri Botanical Garden focuses on the Yanomamo Indians of the Brazilian rain forest. Color photographs, original drawings, and translations of tribal rain-forest myths are all part of this display on loan from the Carnegie Museum of Natural History. St. Louis. (314) 577-5122

October

3–5: Elkhorn Valley Country Music Festival. Come on down to a fiddling fiesta, complete with men and women singers, electric and country pickers, and an arts-and-crafts fair. Fremont. (402) 721-5712

4–5: Old West Balloon Races. Up, up, and away. Colorful balloons breeze through the sky in hare-and-hound races, and experienced balloonists get to show off their stuff in controlled navigation contests. Scottsbluff. (308) 632-5667

December

12–14, 19–21: Christmas at Union Station. Even old "bah-humbug" Scrooge would crack a smile at these happy gatherings of carolers around a magnificent 55-foot tree in

a turn-of-the-century train station. Omaha. (402) 444-5174

February

21: 4th Annual Wild Game Feed. Dine on locally caught elk, moose, deer, pheasant, fish, raccoon, and possibly porcupine. Kimball (308) 235-3782

NEVADA

Nevada Department of Tourism
Capitol Complex
Carson City, Nevada 89710
(702) 885-4322

September

Aug. 29–Sep. 1: 80th Annual Labor Day Celebration. The streets and parks of this hillside town come alive with a parade, a Dutch-oven cook-off, mining competitions, softball games, horse races, wrist wrestling, and widespread merriment. Pioche. (702) 962-5544

October

4–5: Art in the Park. A large open-air festival showcasing everything from fine oils and pastels to handcrafted quilts and baskets. Boulder City. (702) 293-2034

4–5: Great Western Harvest Pumpkin Festival. Traditional jack-o-lanterns are outdone by entries like an elaborately sculptured swan and a comical "Mr. T" in a fancy carving contest. Live bands, a parade, and a pumpkin bake-off add spice to this harvest bash. Yerington. (702) 463-3915

24–26: Fairshow. Have your spirit lifted when the Nevada National Hot Air Balloon Races send more than seventy colorful aerostats into the desert sky. Continuous entertainment, a chili cook-off, ethnic food, and a beer garden promise to tantalize the senses, too. North Las Vegas. (702) 642-1944

December

13: Children's Christmas Parade. Schoolchildren celebrate the season by parading through town on floats, on horses, in marching bands, or even just walking their dogs. Henderson. (702) 565-8951

February

Mid-Feb.: Pro/Celebrity Winter Games. Four pro/celebrity teams of skiers hit the slopes in this snowy event. Observers watch the chills and spills of giant slalom, obstacle course, and inner-tube races from the sundeck of the Ski Incline Lodge. Incline Village. (702) 831-2004

NEW MEXICO

New Mexico Economic Development
and Tourism Department
Bataan Memorial Building
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503
(800) 545-2040 or (505) 827-6230

September

5–7: Fiesta de Santa Fe. Pack up all your cares and woes and watch the burning of Zozobra, known as Old Man Gloom. The 1,500-pound, forty-foot puppet arrives at Fort Marcy Park on Friday. At twilight, Zozobra is set on fire, and crowds cheer as the monster burns with his eyes rolling and arms flailing. With gloom out of the way, the weekend of festivities begins. Santa Fe. (505) 988-7575

October

3–5: Whole Enchilada Fiesta. Come sink your teeth into the world's largest New Mexican flat enchilada, prepared over an open fire on a seven-foot griddle. Dances, three stages of continual entertainment, a parade, and more. Las Cruces. (505) 524-1968

11–12: Cultural Heritage Festival. Travel the world without ever leaving the Civic Center at this international celebration of ethnic costumes, food, and folk dances. Farmington. (505) 326-7602 or (800) 541-1398, then punch in 332-832.

15–Dec. 15: Taos Inn's Meet-the-Artist Series. Well-known Taos artists like R. C. Gorman share their creative processes with art lovers. Informal discussions, demonstrations, and studio tours are all part of this inspiring series. Taos. (800) 826-7466

November

14–16: Southwest Arts and Crafts Festival. International artisans display and sell their works at this juried fair. Albuquerque. (505) 262-2448

February

15: Chama Chile Classic 5K and 10K. Cross-country skiers tackle a course that follows the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad to lofty Cumbres Pass. Chama. (505) 268-4876

NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota Dept. of Tourism
Liberty Memorial Bldg.
Capitol Grounds
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505
(800) 437-2077 or (701) 224-2525

September

7–13: Potato Bowl USA. Brawny spud-men go at it on the gridiron as the University of North Dakota football team takes on Texas A & I. A week of events like a parade, beauty pageant, wrestling match, and pep rally precedes the game. Grand Forks. (701) 746-0444

October

24–25: Norsk Høstfest. First-class entertainment features accordion player Myron Floren, Mel Tillis, Johnny Cash and his wife June Carter with the Carter family, the Lilgedahl Orchestra from Halmstam, Sweden, and singer Ejoro Holand from Norway. Craftspeople flock from as far away as British Columbia, Canada, to hawk their wares, and food booths offer a smorgasbord of Scandinavian treats. Minot. (701) 852-6000

November

14–Dec. 31: All Nations Christmas Celebration. Sculpture, paintings, pottery, and hand-sewn pieces representing cultures from around the world are exhibited and sold. Bismarck. (701) 223-5660

February

2–4 (tentative): National Hard Spring Wheat Show. Learn all about the wholesome wheat grain and its uses at this educational show. Hard red spring wheat samples from North Dakota and surrounding states are exhibited and judged. Williston. (701) 572-2747

6–16: Winter Festival. Have a blast playing snow football, volleyball, and softball, broomball, and indoor games like monopoly, or watch exciting sled-dog races. Fargo. (701) 241-1353

13–21: Winterfest. Tennis anyone? Summer sports like tennis and golf take on a new twist when played in the snow. Other cold-weather activities include a snow sculpture contest, fishing derby, snowmobile race, and a melt-off: guess when an object buried in a block of melting ice will surface. Dickinson. (701) 225-5115

OKLAHOMA

Oklahoma Tourism
Marketing Services Division
500 Will Rogers Building
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105
(405) 521-2406

September

20–21: Guthrie Road Show. View great vintage beauties like early Model As and Model Ts as hundreds of antique cars are displayed

downtown. Guthrie. (405) 282-1947

October

4: Czech Festival. Polka fans will flip over a day of polka music and dance, along with a brass band concert, group singing, Czech dancers, 10K and 1K runs, and a performance of the *beseda*, the Czech national dance. Yukon. (405) 354-3567

4–5: Old Fort Indian Summer Arts & Crafts Festival. Take a trip back in time and watch the work of a blacksmith, weaver, spinner, and other early craftspeople, listen to live country and bluegrass music, and join in the excitement of a black-powder shoot. Fort Gibson. (918) 478-4780

31–Nov. 4: Will Rogers Days. Express yourself at a wood-carving contest, sample the results of a chili cook-off, sing happy birthday to Will Rogers at a party in his honor, or rise above it all on a tethered balloon ride. Claremore. (918) 341-2818

December

9–13: 1st Annual World's Championship Barrel Racing Futurity. Thrills and spills as 750 horses compete for over half a million dollars. A horse sale, trade show, and derby are held in conjunction with the barrel racing. Oklahoma City. (405) 278-8900

February

23: Annual Green Country Jazz Festival. Sway to the tunes of local talent as well as the music of a big-name professional. Tahlequah. (918) 456-5511, ext. 3619

OREGON

Economic Development Department
Tourism Division
595 Cottage Street, N.E.
Salem, Oregon 97310
(800) 547-7842 or (800) 233-3306

September

27–28: Fall Kite Festival. Go fly a kite! Kite-flying contests and demonstrations on the sandy beach of D-River Wayside, the world's shortest river. Lincoln City. (503) 994-9500

October

25–26: Handmade Furniture Show. Find one-of-a-kind chairs, desks, swings, and other pieces of fine, handcrafted furniture made by twenty-five Pacific Northwest exhibitors. Portland. (503) 228-1367

December

1–7: Snowflake Festival. The doldrums of winter will disappear with the arrival of live reindeer, fireworks, a parade, a home lighting competition, a band jamboree, and even a model airplane contest. A candlelight march to a nondenominational, community religious service is sure to warm everyone's spirit. Klamath Falls. (503) 883-5371

26–31: Winter Whale Watching Week. At the end of the year about 17,000 gray whales swim south from feeding grounds in the Bering Sea to calving grounds in the lagoons of Baja California. Guided groups venture out onto local promontories to catch a glimpse of spouts, backs, and tails. Newport. (503) 867-3011

February

Early: Sunriver Art Competition. From realism to abstract impressionism, works of Oregon artists will grace the gallery of the Sunriver Lodge all month long. Entries include paintings, weavings, sculpture, and woodcuts. Sunriver. (503) 593-1221

Early: Crab Feed. An all-you-can-eat dinner for seafood lovers. Dungeness crab, salad, wine, and Tillamook cheese are on the bill of fare. Tillamook. (503) 842-7525

SOUTH DAKOTA

South Dakota Division of Tourism
Box 1000
Pierre, South Dakota 57501
(800) 547-7842 or (800) 233-3306

September

6–7: Watertown Wildlife Festival. Wildlife and Western artists display works in many mediums, including painting, drawing, wood carving, bronze sculpture, and scrimshaw. Watertown. (605) 886-6901

18: South Dakota Championship Bed Races. No one will be dozing during this wacky sprint. Spectators bet on their favorite bed-on-wheels while team members push their mattress rider down the street for a couple of blocks. Cash prizes for the top four finishing teams. Belle Fourche. (605) 892-2676

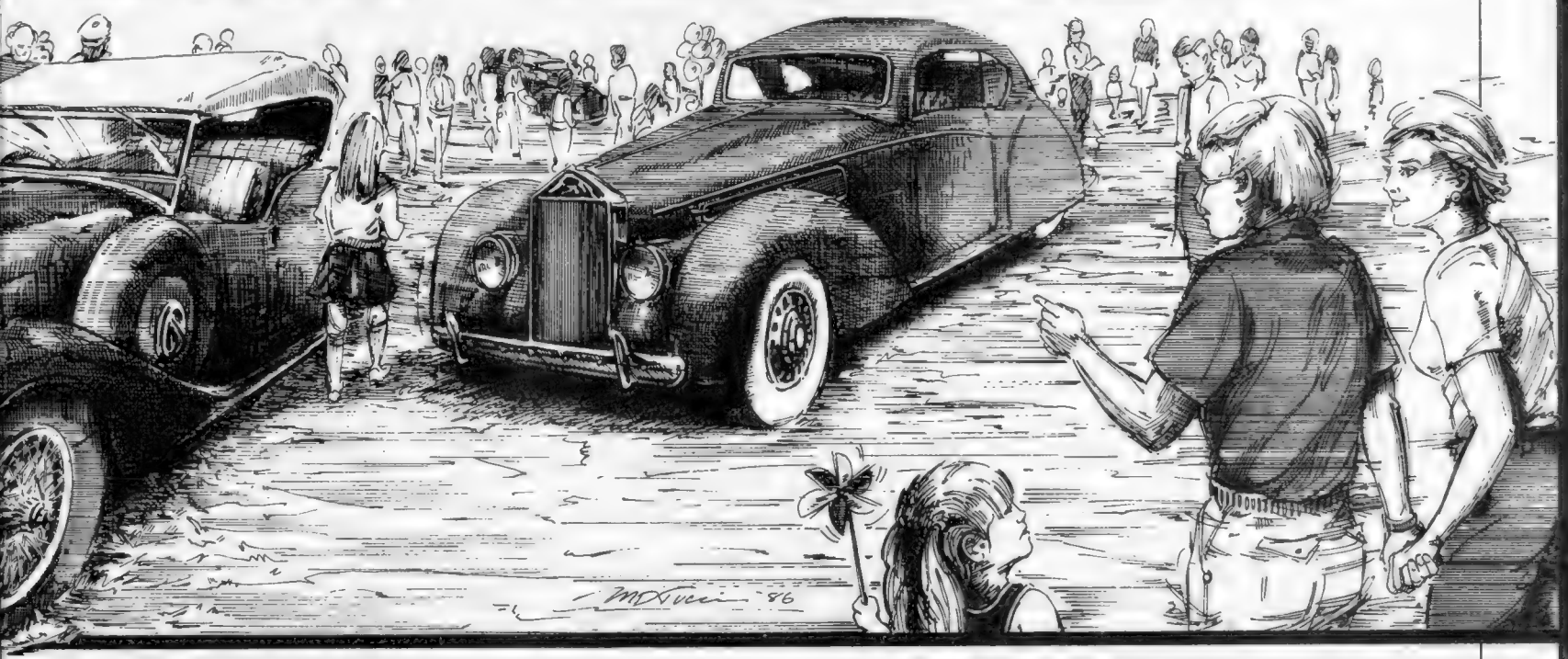
December

6–13: Christmas in the Hills. Discover handmade toys, crafts, and decorations to fill all the empty stockings hung with care, at this Christmas marketplace modeled after the 300-year-old Christkindlemarkt in Germany. A live nativity scene and carolling will follow the lighting of a 100-foot tree. Hot Springs. (605) 745-3388 or (605) 745-4120

13–14: Festival of Trees. Barbershop quartets, church choirs, and a senior-citizens choir take their turns chiming in during a tree decorating party and an arts and crafts fair. Lead. (605) 584-1117

February

7: Snowmobile Drag Races. Vrooom! Speedy snowmobiles zip through the snow on ⅛-mile runs. Only licensed operators may participate. Lemmon. (605) 374-5716



TEXAS

Texas Travel & Information Division
State Department of Highways
11th and Brazos Streets
Austin, Texas 78701
(512) 475-8044

September

6–7: Aquafest. Fast-paced, wet fun with sailboard races, catamaran races, waterskiing exhibitions, canoe demonstrations and races, and a boat exhibit. Ennis. (214) 875-2625

20: Ranch Days. Learn what it was like on a ranch before automatic conveniences and see how to make things like corn-husk dolls, or watch the smithy at work in his forge. Lubbock. (806) 742-2458

October

4–5, 11–12, 18–19, 25–26, Nov. 1–2, 8–9: Texas Renaissance Festival. Lords and ladies, vendors, gypsies, and jesters mingle about in spectacular costumes, munching on tasty treats or watching jousting matches and exciting chariot races. Navasota. (409) 825-6600 or (713) 356-2178

22: Masquerade Western Dance. Vintage clothing in an 1800s mode is *de rigeur* for two-stepping to Mexican-western and Texan tunes. Prizes are awarded to the best-rigged dancers. Roma. (512) 849-1671 or (512) 487-7611

November

14–16: Czech Music in Texas: A Sesquicentennial Symposium. A musical extravaganza with Czech folk and classical pieces performed by the Lee Roy Matocha Orchestra, the Kovanda Czech Band, and the Dallas Czech Concert Orchestra, along with Czech *beseda* dancers. Bryan. (409) 776-1986

February

13–22: San Antonio Livestock Show & Rodeo. Sip on shots of border buttermilk (tequila and lemonade) or reap the rewards of an oyster-opening contest as high-spirited broncs cut loose in the arena. San Antonio. (512) 225-5851

UTAH

Utah Travel Council
Council Hall/Capitol Hill
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114
(801) 533-5681

September

6–7: Depot Days. Come and get it! An early morning breakfast hosted by the Boy Scouts kicks off this mountain man rendezvous and classic car show. Bus tours take visitors through the historic mining district. Eureka. (801) 433-6842

13: Bike 'N' Tie. Teams of two share a bicycle and alternately peddle and run a 24-mile course up ski and horse trails and around town. Park City. (801) 649-5063

October

10–11: Greek Festival. Kick up your heels during lively Greek dances like the *sorto* and the *hasapiko* or savor mouth-watering *souvlaki* and *baklava*. Ogden. (801) 399-2231 or (801) 399-8511

November

15: Blue Mountain Rodeo. Bucking broncs burst loose as high-school wranglers try to hold on and beat the clock. St. George. (801) 673-4932

21–23: 3rd Annual Mountain Man Rendezvous. Buckskinners display their old-time survival skills at a black-powder shoot, primitive-bow-and-arrow contest, firing-pin throw, and primitive-spear throw. Moab. (801) 259-5360

January

24: Crazy Hat Days. Skiers dream up the craziest headgear ever seen on the slopes. Hats need not be designed to stay on when skiing. Beaver Mountain. (801) 753-0921

WASHINGTON

Washington Department of Trade and Economic Development/Tourism Division
101 General Administration Building
Olympia, Washington 98504-0613
(800) 541-9274 or (800) 562-4570

September

Aug. 29–Sep. 1: Ellensburg Rodeo and Kittitas County Fair. Saddle bronc and Brahma bull riders hang on tight for big prize money in this PRCA rodeo that began in 1923. Special events like wild-cow milking and trick riding are sure to please the fans. Ellensburg. (509) 925-3137

19–21: Deutsches Fest. *Auf Dein Wohl!* Raise your stein to health at a beer *garten*, and feast on authentic German food like sauerkraut, wurst, and strudel. Continual entertainment, a youth *garten* for kids, and a community church service are all part of this German fest. Odessa. (509) 982-2672

October

4–5: Salmon Days. Welcome the salmon's return to Issaquah hatchery with a parade, 5K and 10K runs, live band performances, and Bite of Issaquah—a delicious food circus. Issaquah. (206) 392-7024

November

7–9: Ocean Shores Jazz Festival. Sway to the Dixieland tunes of several jazz bands playing in three locations. Treat your tastebuds with twenty-five-cent wine tastings from Washington wineries. (206) 289-4411

December

6, 13: Christmas Lighting Festival. A picturesque Bavarian village twinkles with holiday lights, and music plays in the park when Santa and Mrs. Claus pay a visit to this alpine town. Leavenworth. (509) 548-7914

January

Mid-Jan.: Big Seattle Boat Show. Nautical buffs will discover power- and sailboats and accessories from brass cleaner to deck shoes at this ten-day exhibit in the Kingdome. Seattle. (206) 634-0911

WYOMING

Wyoming Travel Commission
I-25 at College Drive
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002-0660
(800) 225-5996 or (307) 777-7777

September

Aug. 30–Sep. 1: Fort Bridger Rendezvous Days. Jim Bridger himself would feel at home at this 1820s–1840s-style gathering of mountain men. Beads and guns are exchanged on traders' row, buckskinners camp in primitive tipis and lean-tos, and young 'uns have fun trying to knock each other off a log with pillows, scale a pole, or yell the loudest. Listen to silver-tongued adults weave inventive tall tales at the liars' contest, watch a black-powder shoot or Indian dances, or chow down a buffaloburger and other pioneer goodies. Fort Bridger. (307) 782-3842 or (801) 254-2821

October

14: Symposium: "The Custer Mystique." Coinciding with an ongoing exhibit on Custer, a panel of experts discusses the ways that the Custer myth permeates American culture today. Cody. (307) 587-4771

Mid-Oct.: Pro-Rodeo Finals. Buckaroos gather from all over the West to try their darndest at this year's final PRCA event. Casper. (307) 577-0967

December

25, 31: Torchlight Parade. Dazzling displays of shimmering light cascade over Après-Vous Mountain as members of the ski school staff glide down the slope. Teton Village. (307) 733-2292

January

24–31: Wyoming State Winter Fair. Down-home country fun with oodles of animal shows: horse, dog, calf, lamb, and hog. Cross-country skiing, snowmobile races, a formal dance, and a barn dance with big-band music. Lander. (307) 332-3881

February

20–21: Snowsation Cutter Races. Fast-paced excitement as teams of two horses pull custom-made chariots through the snow (or mud). Calcutta betting, where teams are auctioned off for the race, is held prior to post time. Saratoga. (307) 326-8855

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Western Art Notes

COURTESY PALACE OF THE GOVERNORS

Historic Hide Paintings Return to New Mexico

Two historic eighteenth century paintings on bison hide have returned to New Mexico after an absence of more than 200 years. Running in a year-long exhibit at the Palace of the Governors in Santa Fe beginning August 31, the treasured works depict events from the Spanish Colonial period and provide valuable information on frontier armaments and dress.

The first of the two wonderfully detailed paintings shows the 1720 expedition conducted by Pedro Villasur, lieutenant governor of the New Mexico area, from the Palace of the Governors to what is now Nebraska. Accompanied by forty-three soldiers and sixty Pueblo Indian auxiliaries, Villasur was heading east to investigate possible intrusions by the French into the Spanish Empire. On August 14, 1720, French-backed Pawnee and Oto Indians ambushed the expedition, killing thirty-four soldiers and civilians, Villasur among them. The picture shown is a portion of this 17′ by 4.5′ painting, which is composed of three pieces of bison hide stitched together.

Authorities speculate that the second hide painting depicts a 1719 punitive expedition by Captain Antonio Valverde y Cosio against Apache Indians. Although the origin of the paintings is unknown, scholars believe that they may have been commissioned to accompany official reports sent to the Viceroy of New Spain in Mexico City. Father Philipp von Segesser von Brunegg, a Jesuit missionary serving in what is now the state of Sonora, Mexico, acquired the paintings and sent them as a gift to relatives in Switzerland in 1758. The von Segesser family still owns the paintings but is negotiating their sale to the Palace of the Governors.

East meets West when a collection of Idaho folk art travels the Middle East for a year beginning this September. "We Came to Where We Were Supposed to Be: Folk Art of Idaho," an exhibit that includes woodcarving, rawhide braiding, saddle making, and American Indian beadwork and basketry was selected by the United States Information Agency to represent Idaho in Jordan, Pakistan, Tunisia, and Syria. This is the first such state exhibit to tour internationally. The exhibition title comes from a Shoshone-Paiute legend that tells how the tribes migrated from the south and west into southern Idaho until they "came to where [they] were supposed to be."

Dizzying San Francisco cityscapes, still lifes of candy apples, deli cakes, and shoes are some of the seventy-four paintings and fifteen drawings that comprise an exhibit on the work of California realist painter Wayne Thiebaud. Thiebaud's contemporary paintings emphasize form, composition, and color over theme. Nearly half of the work in this show organized by the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art was created during the past decade. "Wayne Thiebaud" runs September 27–November 9 at The Nelson–Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, Missouri.

A personal conception of the West and its art is reflected in "One Woman's West: The Collection of Barbara Rogers Stinson," now showing through September 21 at the Millicent Rogers Museum in Taos, New Mexico. An admirer of American Indian art for over fifty years, Mrs. Stinson has collected jewelry, rugs, baskets, pottery, kachina dolls, paintings, and sculpture from various tribes across the West. Information on where, when, and from whom she purchased each item is included in the exhibit.

Daily life in southern California, be it that of local American Indians, Spanish settlers, missionaries, or American pioneers, is chronicled in the exhibit "Early California Reflections," which includes art and artifacts dating from the first signs of man's presence to the 1860s. Running at the San Juan Capistrano Regional Library in San Juan Capistrano, California, August 30–October 11, the show includes pottery, chairs, dishes, portraits, samples of correspondence, swords, statues of saints, and many other items that were put to daily use by the various cultures that make up southern California's heritage. Lectures on different aspects of life in early California are being given each Saturday at the library through October 11.

The five-week Western American Film Festival featuring flicks like *Hombre*, *Little Big Man*, and *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance* focuses on the myths and realities of the West as they are portrayed on the silver screen. The festival is one of a series of events honoring Ernest Hemingway at Boise State University in Idaho and coincides with a course entitled "Hemingway and the Myth of the West." *Shane*, *Red River*, and *Electric Horseman* are also some of the films being shown throughout October.

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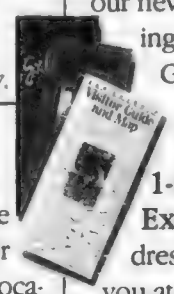

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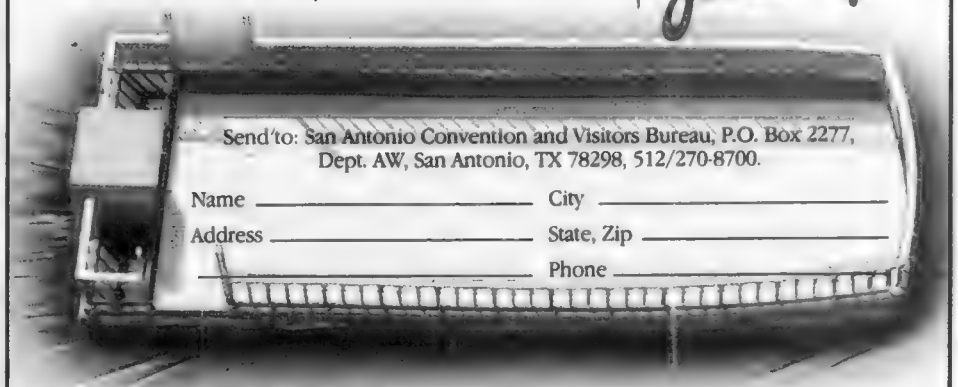

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PHOTO BY AUTHORS

Rattling Antlers

by Erwin and Peggy Bauer

Many a good wildlife photograph has been the result of some special skill, some unusual strategy, or a stroke of luck that has little to do with cameras and lenses. Using a little bait such as cracked corn or birdseed or a block of salt will lure some creatures close enough to "shoot." Simply climbing a tree or using a sturdy, well-camouflaged blind may be the tactic for photographing anything from a shy coyote to a very rare wood warbler. Calling by mouth or with a tape recorder also attracts certain critters very near.

But the picture of the two magnificent South Texas white-tailed bucks—genuine trophies—was obtained by a ruse as old as the mesquite hills: rattling with a pair of discarded deer antlers.

Indians of the Southwest were rattling deer horns long before any palefaces set foot in the region. During the fall rut wherever bucks are numerous and eager for action, any smashing together of antlers might bring some bucks into view on the run. At other times a virtuoso performance may be necessary to bring a wise old male whitetail in front of your viewfinder. But for a serious camera hunter, rattling works as well today for photographers aiming telephoto lenses as it did for Indians armed with primitive bows. Now we carry antlers at all times when out filming from late summer until Christmas, or even beyond New Year's Day in southern Texas.

Deer behavior may seem strange, unpredictable, even unfathomable at any time, but it is never more interesting than after the leaves begin to fall. Males become hyperactive in a seasonal search for females coming into estrus, which means they travel a great deal. Therefore, they meet many other rival bucks, and immediately they test one another. The result can be a noisy, sometimes violent, antler-rattling fight that attracts other males to the scene. The sound of rattling is a call to combat that a clever cameraman (or a deer hunter) can use to his advantage.

We were introduced to rattling many years ago by Murry Burnham, the dean of deer callers, from Marble Falls, Texas. Following his instructions, we made our first set of rattlers from the better-than-average eight-point rack of a deceased buck with long, heavy tines. We sawed the brow tines from the main beams and ground that area smooth for a good hand grip. With the two antlers loosely attached by a length of thong, we can carry them in the field around the neck or slung over one shoulder.

Many successful rattlers have their own techniques that work at least as well as ours. The first concern is to select a spot where deer (or signs such as fresh tracks) are numerous. We hide there well hidden, either in thick natural brush or in a blind. Next we crack the antlers together, hard, before rattling the tines to imitate two deer lunging at one another and sparring. We pause, as bucks do, and repeat this at intervals, usually also scraping the tines on the ground and against the brittle branches of trees.

Not all deer react the same way. A few bucks will come bounding headlong, directly

toward the sound, as if in a desperate search for love and excitement. At times they've almost overrun the place where we crouched unseen. Others came sneaking in, skulking, a step at a time, quietly, often unnoticed until they were almost in our laps. This kind of approach can make any photographer's adrenalin pump faster.

The deer in the photo seemed to materialize out of nowhere. One moment the scene before us was empty of life; the next instant two bucks were standing in yellow sunlight, necks swollen and eyes red with the rut, staring in disbelief toward two figures wearing camouflage clothing. Not being young and foolish, we vanished as swiftly as they had appeared, after clicking our cameras. But we had pictures worth bragging about of striking and normally elusive animals.

Successful or not, rattling is a suspenseful, fall sport guaranteed to produce surprises. Some days it seems useless until a nervous buck suddenly appears from a direction you least expect. During the peak of the breeding season, some bucks may respond promptly at any time of day, especially if it is cold and overcast. But usually the first hour or so of the morning is most productive. Evenings also are good. In our experience, rattling is most effective in areas where the ratio of bucks to does (and hence the competition factor) is high.

We have found that two can play the game better than one. While one of us rattles, the other sits some distance away with a camera in a very well-concealed position upwind. Many a deer has approached within point-blank range of the photographer while its entire attention was riveted on the location of the rattling sound. Last fall one splendid buck actually advanced *too* near to be "shot."

Although rattling has heretofore been a tactic of Texas and the Southwest, used for white-tailed deer only, we have found that it works almost as well with mule deer and elk, even with moose. The trouble is that elk or moose antlers are too large and heavy to be carried easily in the field. But often we have been able to entice both of these species from dense cover into the open for better pictures just by briskly rattling deer antlers.

Summed up, rattling is always an exciting way to spend a golden fall day. When done in good deer country, there are few dull moments, and the pictures make splendid lifelong trophies.

Erwin *and* **Peggy Bauer** *are authors of* Deer in Their World, *an award-winning book on North American deer, full of excellent color photographs. It is available from Travel-Adventure-Outdoors, Box 543, Teton Village, Wyoming 83025 for $32, postage included.*

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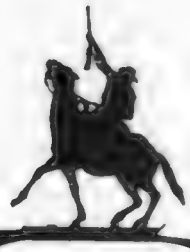

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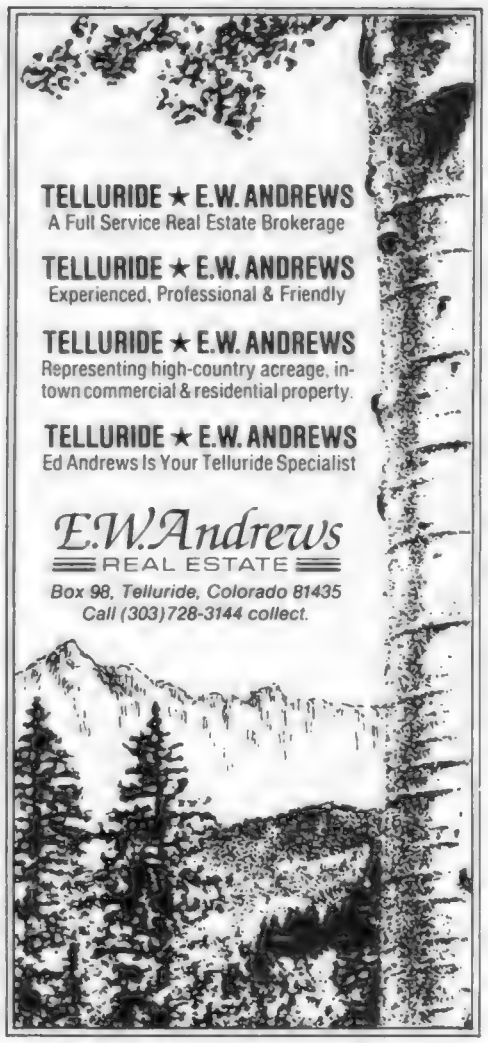
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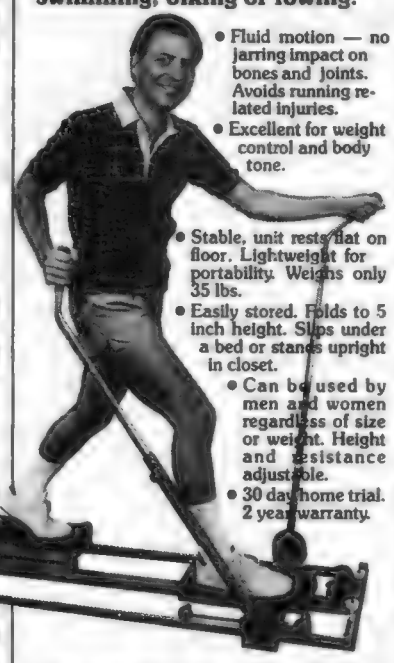

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Western Books in Brief

These books may be purchased from your local bookstore.* AMERICAN WEST *does not sell them.

The Winds of Change: Preserving the Heritage of Man, *a videotape hosted and narrated by James Whitmore, produced by John Kerwin (Eagle Productions Ltd., San Diego, 1986; 45 minutes long, $39.95).*
In 1875, the taming of the West and the arrival of the railroad forced Western Indians and mountain men to realize their way of life would soon no longer be possible. This "infotainment" video from the American Heritage Video Collection dramatizes the changes sweeping through the West at that time by depicting an encounter between an Indian and a white trapper. Shot entirely on location in scenic Utah, this short, realistic film attempts to clarify facts about Western lore and preserve American Indian heritage.

Our Nature *by Bil Gilbert (University of Nebraska Press, Lincoln, 1986; 267 pp., $18.95).*
Our Nature links together a strand of essays that sparkle with Gilbert's interest in and insight into the myriad topics that fall under the vast umbrella labeled nature. Pieces on how we are the products of our social and natural history offer delightful nuggets of information on diverse subjects like rattlesnakes and grizzly bears, the effects of cold, and people like scientist Carl Linnaeus and naturalist Thomas Nuttall. Gilbert's essays awaken us to the pleasure of discovering the wonderful interconnectedness of people, animals, plants, and events that makes us who we are.

Time Exposure: The Autobiography of William Henry Jackson, *intro. by Ferenc M. Szasz (First published in 1940. University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, 1986; 362 pp., illus., paper $9.95).*
At the venerable age of ninety-seven, William H. Jackson set down his varied and wide-ranging life as a painter and preeminent frontier photographer. In a warm, chatty style, Jackson recounts his many escapades in the West, such as bullwhacking his way to the Great Salt Lake and exploring the natural wonders of Yellowstone with painter Thomas Moran. Born in 1843, Jackson witnessed remarkable developments in photography and in the country in general; his autobiography is a treasure-house of first-hand accounts about the settling of the American frontier.

The Comprehensive Guide to Western Gamefish *by Ed Lusch, illus. by Ron Pittard (Windsor Publications, Eugene, Oregon, 1985; 125 pp., illus., index, paper $12.95).*
Western fishing fanatics rejoice. Lusch's guide tells all about those elusive trout, bass, crappie, and bluegill. Descriptions of the physical characteristics, range, and feeding and spawning habits of every freshwater game fish that swims the lakes and streams of western United States and Canada are complemented by vivid, detailed color illustrations. Tips on where and how to catch warm-water and cold-water game fish are given along with advice on the importance of releasing fish of a less populous species.

Cowboy Slang *by Edgar R. "Frosty" Potter, illus. by Ron Scofield (Golden West Publishers, Phoenix, Arizona, 1986; 125 pp., illus., paper $5.00).*
Learn the ABCs of Western lingo for descriptions of everything from appearance — "as bowlegged as a barrel hoop" — to worthlessness — "his family tree wasn't no better than a shrub." Even the greenest of greenhorns will know how to distinguish between cattle brands and ear marks and be able to tell an appaloosa from a piebald horse after perusing this informal little guide to cowboy jargon.

Adventuring Along the Gulf of Mexico: The Sierra Club Travel Guide to the Gulf Coast of the United States and Mexico from the Florida Keys to Yucatan *by Donald G. Schueler (Sierra Club Books, San Francisco, 1986; 320 pp., illus., appendix, glossary, biblio., index, paper $10.95).*
Strap on your sandals or lace up your hiking boots and get set to enjoy the lush greenery of marshes and the soft sound of water lapping on the shore. This readable, thoughtful book lives up to the Sierra Club reputation of providing informative guides that enhance an outdoor-oriented trip. Campground info, regional natural history minilessons, and cultural tidbits that help smooth the transition from state to state (or from the United States to Mexico) are just a few of the features that make this book an essential travel companion.

Masterworks of the Taos Founders *(University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque, 1986; 92 pp., illus., paper $25.00).*
Readers unacquainted with the works of Taos painters like Ernest L. Blumenschein, J. H. Sharp, Victor Higgins, and seven others will find a delightful introduction to these innova-

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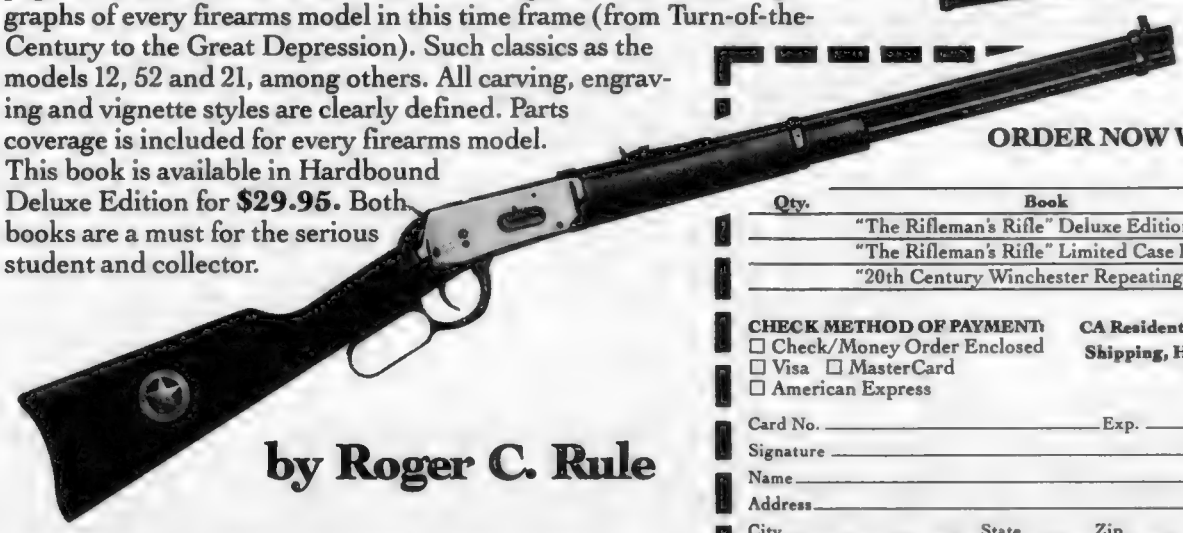

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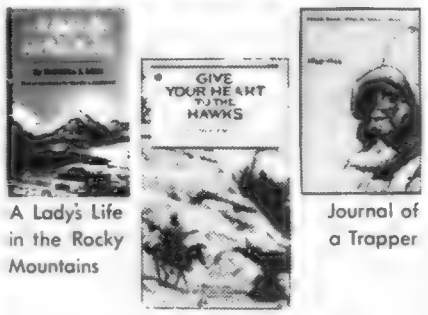

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tive Western artists of the first half of the twentieth century in this catalogue from a 1984 exhibition. Reproduced in brilliant color are stunning paintings of the New Mexican people and countryside such as Kenneth Adams's *Mountainside in Shadow* and Walter Ufer's *After Them*. A brief text on each artist accompanies the reproductions of his art.

Wilderness Above the Sound: The Story of Mount Rainier National Park *by Arthur C. Martinson, foreword by Alfred Runte (Northland Press, Flagstaff, Arizona, 1986; 92 pp., illus., paper $11.95).*

The saga of this splendid national park, from its role as a site of Indian worship through the early days of tourism, unfolds in a wealth of historical photographs and Martinson's knowledgeable text. The book offers insight into how the complicated process of establishing and providing access to a national park comes about. Exciting stories about early attempts to scale the glacier-covered peak, with photos of the hiking parties, are enough to induce the armchair traveler to visit the park himself.

Hovels, Haciendas, and House Calls *by Dorothy Simpson Beimer (The Sunstone Press, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 1986; 309 pp., illus., notes, biblio., index, paper $16.95).*

This heartwarming biography of Dr. Carl Gellenthien, a New Mexico physician, tells of the dedicated doctor's career at his tuberculosis clinic and his compassionate nature. Whether he was coping with disastrous train wrecks or treating the cohorts of gangster Al Capone, Gellenthien remained calm and friendly. Filled with humorous anecdotes about encounters with people like gun-toting parents and headstrong patients, the story of Dr. Gellenthien, the oldest practicing physician in New Mexico today, restores faith in your fellow man while tickling your funny bone.

The Forgotten Cattle King *by Benton R. White (Texas A&M University Press, College Station, 1986; 138 pp., illus., biblio., index, $14.95).*

Nineteenth century cattle baron Fountain Goodlet Oxsheer pulled himself up from the depths of poverty to become one of the greatest figures in the Texas cattle industry. His life story reads like an example of the American dream: hard work, thrift, and a good head for business brought him to the forefront of Texas ranching. Tales about his early struggles, daily life on the range, and pioneering experiments with livestock breeding recapture the bygone era of the great cattle empires.

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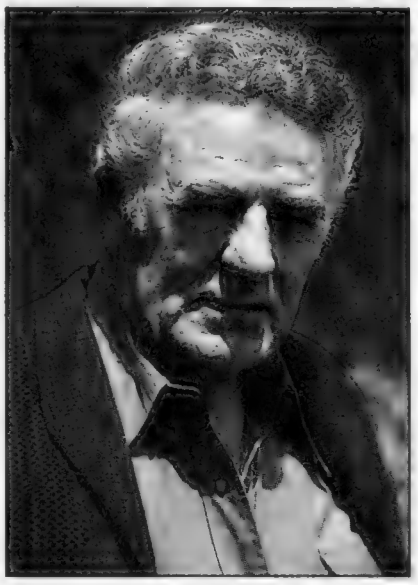

Our feature on **Louis L'Amour** brings you not only an interview that explores the unparalleled popularity of his Westerns but also admiration from an unusual source — **a "Peanuts" strip by Charles Schulz.**

Alvin M. Josephy, Jr., a Marine veteran from World War II, describes his emotional **return to Guam,** over forty years after he and his buddies stormed the island to recapture it from the Japanese.

Our man-and-wife photographic team, Erwin and Peggy Bauer, provide strikingly beautiful **photographs of Western game** that they stalk with their cameras.

Eccentric and talented, **Eadweard Muybridge** made profound contributions to photography during the nineteenth century. We'll bring you an account of his troubled life and of his successes, most notable being his **motion studies** that proved in a succession of photos that a horse lifts all four feet simultaneously when running.

To salute **the holiday season,** we'll offer two reminiscences — one about undressed turkeys and one about a crazy Christmas tree.

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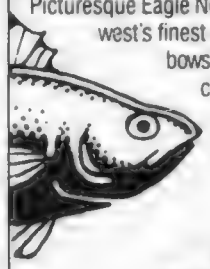

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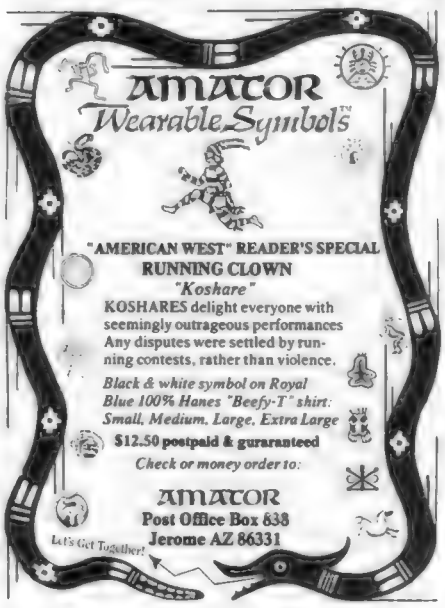
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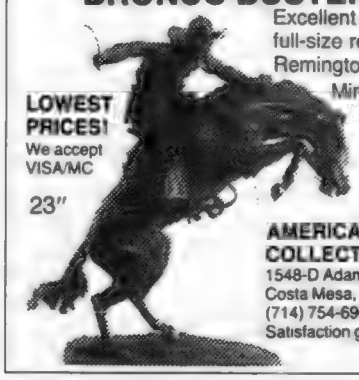

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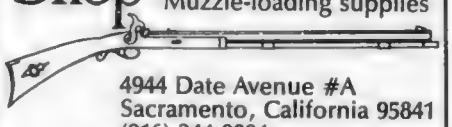

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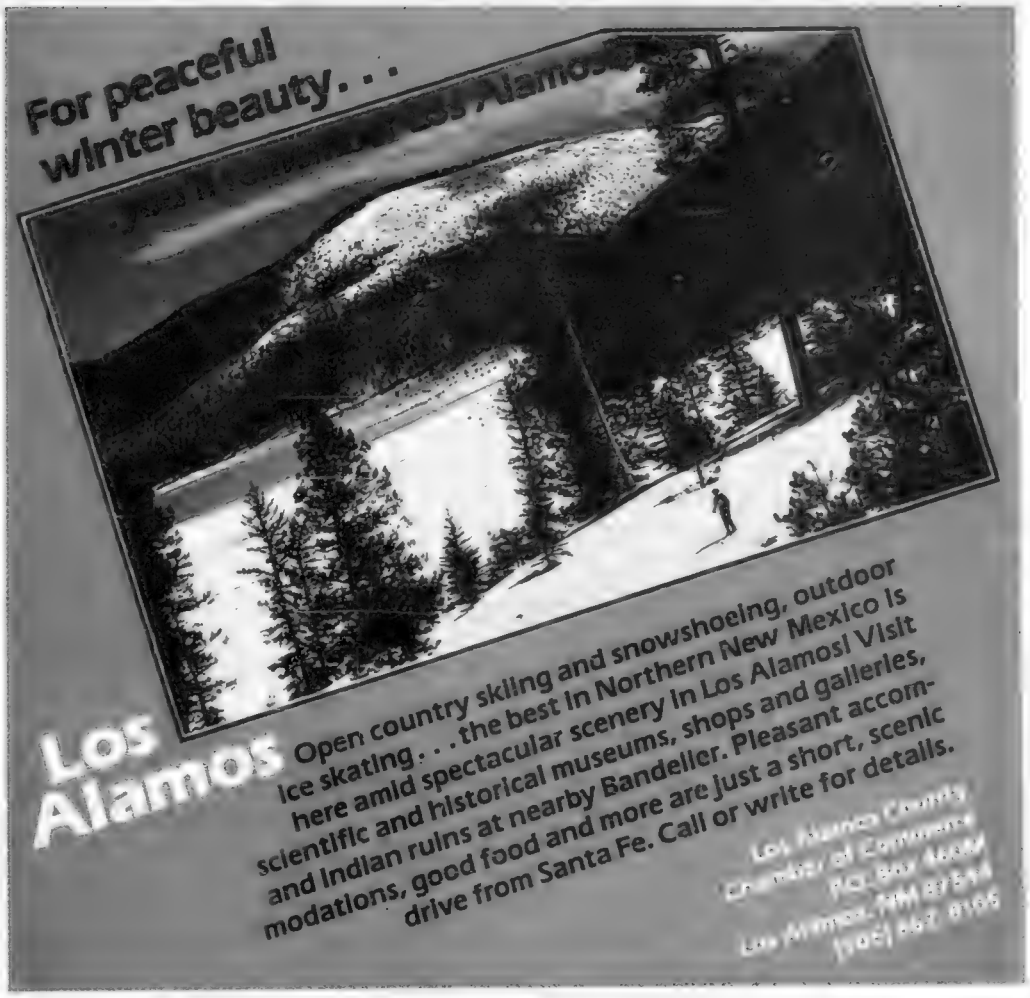
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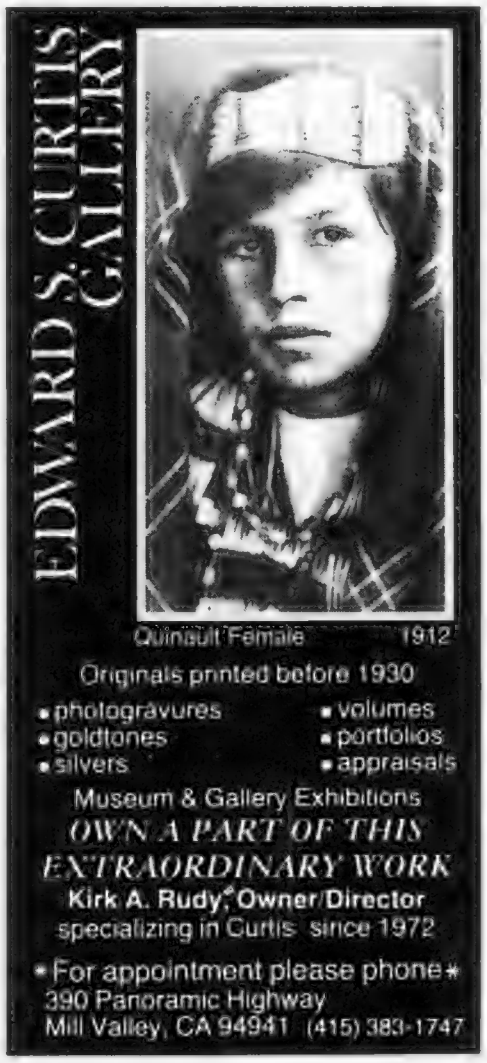

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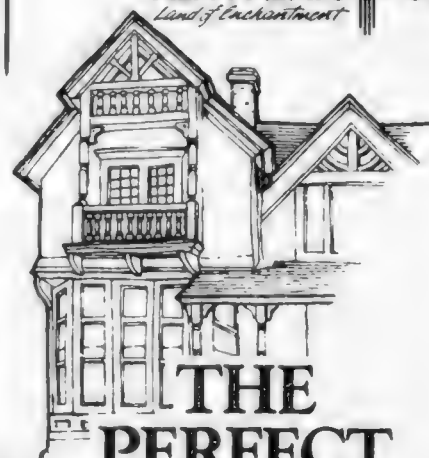

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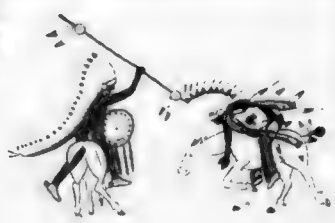

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Western Snapshots Yesterday

"I'm not afraid of the likes of you!" scoffs fiesty Willard Ireland, brandishing his tiny blade at the threatening gunman.

"That little knife's not going to do you much good, sonny," smirks gun-toting Bill Underwood.

These four young men who look like vaudeville desperados are hamming it up in the DeArmand Drug Store in Walnut Springs, Texas, taking a little comic break from their work in the town's Katy Railroad shops.

The calendar on the wall showing January 1917 indicates that the era of silent movies is in full swing, and these four Texans seem to have seen at least their share of melodramatic matinees. Hair swept theatrically over his face, Luther Mathews clasps a knife in his teeth like a character straight out of a Rudolph Valentino film, while his unidentified comrade-in-arms swings a loaded right hand.

Luther Mathews's niece, Ann Dowdell, of Fort Worth, Texas, sent us this old-time snapshot of her uncle and his friends clowning around, a different look at early twentieth century Texas fun.

AMERICAN WEST offers twenty-five dollars to any reader whose Western Snapshot Yesterday is accepted for publication on this page. We seek old photographs that tell stories of bygone times. Especially welcome are pictures depicting some forgotten aspect of Western life, serious or amusing. Space is limited; so, we have to be selective. We'll take good care of your pictures and return them promptly. Be sure to pack the snapshots carefully and enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Send submissions to AMERICAN WEST, Western Snapshots Yesterday, 3033 N. Campbell Avenue, Tucson, Arizona 85719.

Capture the Spirit of America's Indian Youth

- Shown smaller than actual size of 8½" diameter
- 24K gold rim

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The legends and customs of America's Indians have long held a fascination for us all. They are a proud people who have great respect for nature and her animals, and who teach their children these same values.

In this fine porcelain, limited-edition plate, famed artist Gregory Perillo captures the kindred spirit between a young Blackfoot boy and a proud eagle. The exquisite detail in both subjects brings this plate painting to life—depicting the determination and strength these friends share.

Perillo is one of today's foremost Indian-subject artists and has devoted his life to the study, painting and sculpting of these native Americans. His breathtakingly realistic originals have earned sustained praise in the art market, and several of his previous offerings in the limited-edition plate field have seen prompt sell-outs and secondary market appreciation.

Now The Hamilton Collection is privileged to offer "Brave and Free," the first issue in *The Pride of America's Indians* Plate Collection—a series of eight plates, each depicting an Indian child from a different well-known tribe, along with an animal indigenous to that tribe's region. Already, "Brave and Free" has seen prompt demand from collectors.

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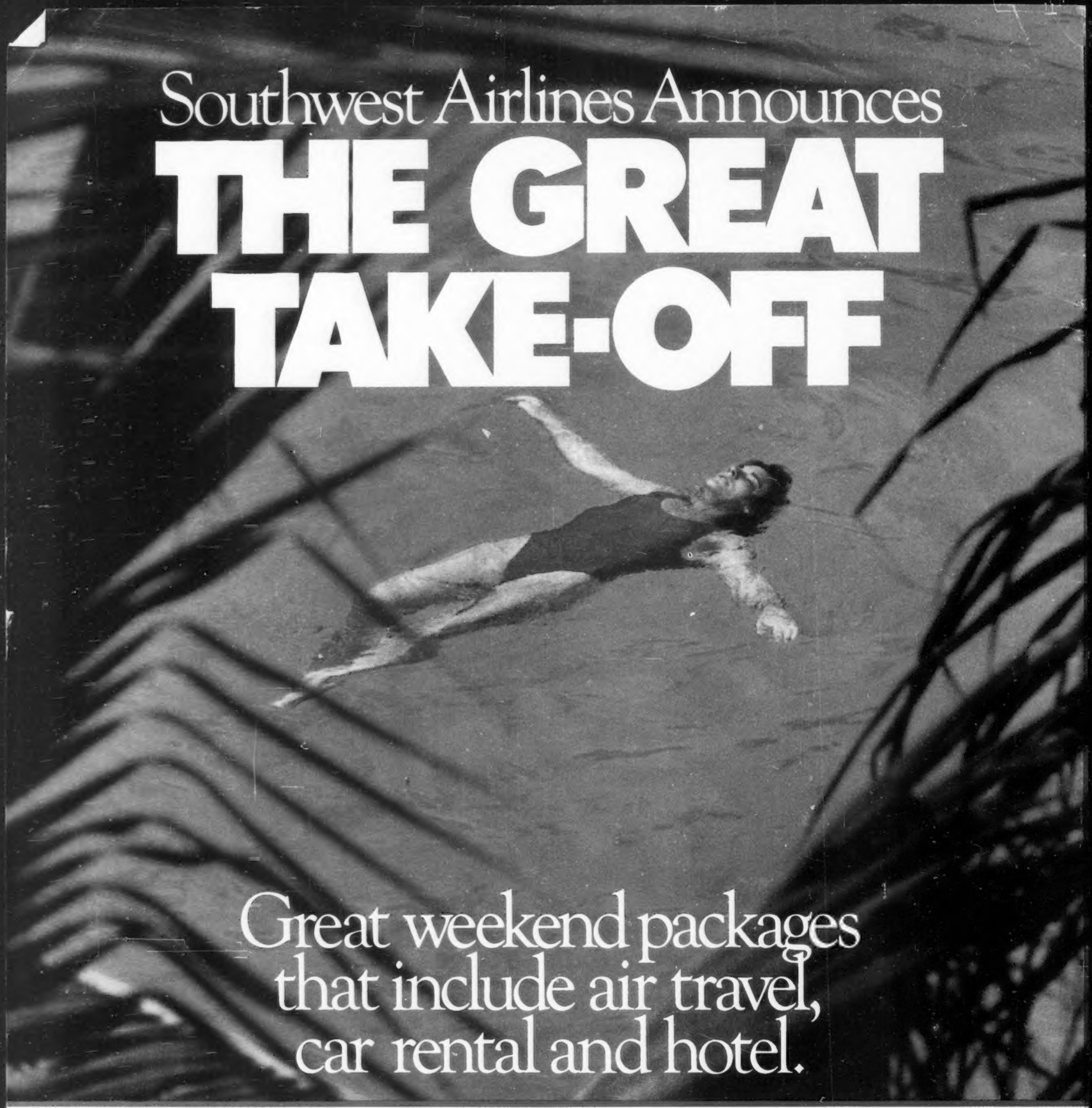

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